

# Walsall & Willenhall CHRONICLE

Thursday, February 2, 2017

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## 'TOO FAT FOR SURGERY' JILL DELIGHTED TO LOSE SEVEN STONE



Jill after her weight loss

A BLACK COUNTRY mother has lost more than seven stone after being told she was too fat for surgery.

In 2014 Jill Sawford, now aged 62, from Greenside Way on the Yew Tree Estate, Walsall, needed to have a knee operation, but she was told by Sandwell General Hospital they could not help her due to her weight.

She was referred to the Royal Orthopaedic Hospital in Birmingham and was told the same, that she was too heavy.

But fast-forward to the present day and Jill has undergone her operation, after dropping more than seven stone.

She weighed 20 stone at the time of her rejection but is now down just to 13 and a half stone.

Her weight loss is even more poignant as she has survived cancer twice.

She said: "It feels incredible but I am not done yet. I want to get to 12 stone and I will get there."

"I want to do it and I am going to do it. I feel better and I want to go further. After being through cancer it makes you think I am lucky to still be here."

### Helpful

But there is no special secret to Jill's success, she puts her dramatic weight loss down to the Weight Watchers plan.

She explained: "I started on the plan on November 6, 2014 and I have not looked back since."

"Everyone is so helpful and is there to support each other."

"I have been asked to become a helper, which means I help point people in the right direction, I love it."

"It is very important to me that I get to help other people."

Jill, who has been married for 39 years, has a son and a daughter.

She said the whole family are 'really proud' of her achievements.

She is retired but sings in a cancer survivors' choir which raises money for Cancer Research.

Jill has lived on the Yew Tree Estate for 24 years after growing up in Handsworth, Birmingham.



Jill seen before

## HEALTH

### Hospital parking tickets total £45k

MORE than 800 parking tickets have been handed out at Walsall Manor Hospital – in one year. New figures show Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust issued 892 parking enforcement tickets during 2015-16.

With each fine set at £50 motorists were slapped with a total of £44,600 in 12 months. Of the 892 handed out, 102 motorists appealed the fine. It is not known how many of these were appealed successfully.

In a statement from the Trust, Jane Longden said: "Following liaison with patients and visitors, the Trust operates a car parking rate of £2 for the first hour and £1 per hour after that up to a maximum of £6 which is comparable to trusts in the local area."

## EDUCATION

### Special education teacher awarded

A TEACHER for children with special educational needs in Walsall, has been given an award for her work with children and their families.

Becki Plant, an assistant special educational needs co-ordinator at Brownhills School, was given an award from charity Contact a Family during a ceremony at Speakers House at the Palace of Westminster.

She was nominated by Victoria Bird, mum of a young man with autism who attends the school.

## SERVICES

### Extra one per cent due on council tax

COUNCIL tax in Walsall could rise by an extra one per cent next year.

Walsall Council said it was 'seeking to maximise any potential funding' for adult social care services, after the Government offered the council the chance to raise council tax further without the need for a referendum to raise extra funds for adult social care.

Currently council tax is due to rise by 3.99 per cent for the 2017/18 financial year, with two per cent of this ring-fenced for social care.

A further one per cent is set to be added – again for social care.

## INSIDE

### GREAT DEALS ON HOLIDAYS



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# Leader says wages move was a 'difficult decision' COUNCIL STAFF IN PAY FREEZE

ALL Walsall Council staff will have their pay frozen for the next financial year as the authority looks to save £86 million by 2020.

Employees at the local authority had been in line to receive the one per cent pay rise agreed at a national level from April 1, but due to the council's current financial circumstances the one per cent pay rise will not go ahead.

This means that all staff pay will effectively be frozen, as the one per cent reduction cancels out the one per cent rise.

Councillor Sean Coughlan, the leader of Walsall Council, said the pay freeze had been a 'difficult decision' but one that was right for residents and the Council's workforce.

He said: "Let's be clear: no-one at Walsall Council will receive a pay rise this year. In March 2016, the council released a number of proposals after having undertaken a review of its employees' terms and conditions."

"Having listened to the feedback from this consultation, the proposals were amended and staff have voluntarily agreed to these changes."

### Increase

"To clarify, the pay of the council's chief officers is being treated exactly the same as the rest of the council's employees in that, although all staff will receive the one per cent national pay increase from 1 April 2017, everyone will also receive a one per cent pay reduction linked to the implementation of that review."

"This will have the same impact on both chief officers' pay and everyone else in that it will effectively mean a

By Jack Avery

pay 'freeze' for all employees from April 1 2017.

"It's been a difficult decision to make but it is the right one for council taxpayers and our workforce as a whole."

The pay freeze was provisionally agreed by the council's personnel committee on December 7 before being rubber stamped by full council at a meeting earlier this month.

At the meeting, both Councillor Coughlan and Councillor Mike Bird, the former leader of the council and current leader of the Conservative group in Walsall, agreed that the salaries being paid to its Chief Executive and other chief officers at the council was the 'going rate'.

The freeze has been agreed at a time when the council needs to save £86 million by 2020. It has put forward a number of cost-cutting options, including closing 15 of the borough's 16 libraries, which will be finalised at a cabinet and then full council meeting this month.

## Jaws stunt head all ready to dive in



Joseph Leckie headteacher Keith Whittlestone in his wetsuit with Warfa Abdurahman, Inayah Hussain, Zeinab Rana and Tristan Rabone

IF being a school principal wasn't challenging enough, the headteacher of a Walsall academy has chosen to swim with sharks.

Keith Whittlestone, head of Joseph Leckie Academy, is taking on the trial to raise money for equipment for the neo-natal unit at Walsall Manor. Pupils at the school have already raised £2,716 towards the £20,000 needed in a variety of ways, from a doughnut sale to staging a fashion show.

The school council decided to raise money for the neo-natal unit after meeting Professor Rashid Gatrud, consultant paediatrician at Walsall Manor Hospital, who spoke to them about his work.

Mr Whittlestone, a keen scuba diver, offered to swim with sharks in order to contribute and it won't be his first encounter with the underwater predators. He said: "Some of the children have asked me what will happen if I get attacked by a shark, and I told them they might be looking for another headteacher," he joked.

Mr Whittlestone has dived all over the globe, usually in exotic locations, but his previous swim with sharks, to raise money for Acorns Hospice, took place at the Blue Planet Aquarium in the Wirral, Merseyside, which he will revisit for this challenge.

"You can't guarantee seeing any sharks in the open sea so that's why it's taking place there," he said.



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# Ticket machines adapted for new £1



The 12-sided one pound coin

PREPARATIONS are under way for the arrival into circulation of the new £1 coin. Councils have been spending thousands of pounds updating car park ticket machines to accept the new 12-sided coin.

Designed by Walsall teenager David Pearce, it will enter circulation on March 28, and by October 15 the traditional round coin will cease to be legal tender. The coin boasts several new security features, including a hologram. Sandwell Council is spending £23,364 updating its machines by making alter-

tations to the software and coin selector.

Councillor Dave Hosell, cabinet member for highways, said: "We were aware of this issue before the new coins were announced and so all of our new machines will accept the coins from April 1. "So far 71 machines have already been configured with the remaining 57 being done over the next two months."

Walsall Council updated its 47 machines, at a cost of £4,500, last year.

Supermarkets have already begun making changes to their trolleys to ensure customers will be able to unlock

them using the new style £1 coin. Cat Parkinson, of Tesco, said: "The new coin slots will accept the old and new pound as well as existing trolley tokens."

Gareth Lundy, an Asda spokesman, said: "Customers will be able to use the new £1 coin in Asda trolleys when it comes into circulation in March," he added. The new coin has been described as the safest in the world. With its 12 sides, will be far more difficult to counterfeit. Currently, around one in every 30 £1 coins in people's change in recent years has been fake.

# Reduction in number of officers on the beat

THERE were 163 fewer police officers in the West Midlands – a drop of 2.3 per cent – over the last year, new figures have revealed.

Official data from the Home Office shows there were 6,880 officers patrolling the Black Country and Birmingham in September, down from 7,043 12 months earlier. The force also lost a fifth of its police community support officers (PCSOs), down from 570 to 450 – a 21 per cent reduction.

The figures were released a week after it was revealed recorded crime in the force area had rocketed by nine per cent.

Labour Police and Crime Commissioner David Jamieson said: "These figures show the clear need for a fairer funding deal for the West Midlands. Record cuts since 2010 mean we have 163 fewer officers now than last year.

"By taking tough decisions on things like estates and making efficiencies elsewhere we are stabilising numbers. I have already announced the recruitment of 800 police officers, 150 PCSOs and 200 specialist staff over the next three years.

"Nevertheless we are still facing cuts of £6 million of government grant this year on top of the £130m cuts we have already faced."

The number of police staff – civilian workers – at West Midlands Police also declined by 37 to 3,082 workers. This represented a 1.2 per cent drop.

The number of special constables – volunteer officers – decreased by 97, leaving 233 when the data was collected in September.

# Chance to be right royal is on offer

ANY girls interested in taking part in the Rushall May Fayre's May Queen and Princess competitions are encouraged to register their interest early. It is open to girls who live, go to school or attend a club in Rushall. Princess entrants must be seven to nine-years-old on May 1, 2017 and Queen entrants must be 10-years-old and older on that date.

The Queen and Princess will be collected by limousine and taken to the Rushall Playing Fields, where the fayre will take place, on May 1. They will be crowned by the Mayor of Walsall and their prize will be a photographic session by Eileen Mason Photography.

Entry forms are available from Sue Blakemore by writing to her at 49 Edinburg Drive, Rushall, Walsall WS4 1HS. For details call 01922 442956.

# 'Hippy' all ready to groove at city gig

A MULTI-TALENTED musician known as 'The Undercover Hippy' is set to get groovy in Wolverhampton. Billy Rowan brings together the acoustic guitar, soulful vocals, infectious reggae rhythms and the lyrical delivery of a skilled MC. He is at The Slade Rooms on May 13.

# Celeb chef stirring up support for art gallery

**AUTHOR and TV chef Prue Leith has given her backing to a campaign to keep the New Art Gallery Walsall open.**

The food entrepreneur and arts campaigner called into the tourist attraction after learning that its future was under threat due to council funding constraints.



Visit – Prue Leith

Walsall Council is proposing to axe the town centre site as part of plans to save £86 million in the next four years due to funding pressures and more than 6,400 protesters have signed a petition calling on the authority to protect it from closure.

The former Great British Menu judge and her new husband the Scottish designer John Playfair paid a visit to the gallery on Saturday.

Prue said: "I read somewhere that it could close, so I thought we could come and have a look. I understand that it may not close now which is good.

## Temporary

"It's a lovely gallery and there were a lot of young people looking around. There are some nice exhibits too and a young man was giving a guided tour."

Prue was influential in getting temporary art exhibitions set up on the fourth plinth at Trafalgar Square, London.

The couple were visiting the region as guests at a Burns Night celebration at Weston Park, in Staffordshire, over the weekend.

Back in December, a protest against the proposed closure of the New Art Gallery saw artists, residents, former art teachers and campaigners as well as representatives from other arts venues, mental health services and children's services gather in opposition to the proposed cuts.

Internationally acclaimed artist Andrew Tift, who has worked as a professional artist for more than 20 years, has recently pleaded with the council not to close down the art gallery through his creation of a poster.

# Tyres set alight next to motorway



A close-up view of the fire on wasteland behind Showcase Cinema at Bentley Mill Way, Willenhall

AROUND 20 truck tyres were set on fire next to the M6.

Firefighters were called to wasteland behind Showcase Cinema at Bentley Mill Way, Willenhall, where they battled the flames for more than an hour.

Footage taken by a West Midlands Fire Service photographer captured six-foot tall flames raging away in a ditch beside the motorway while plumes of white and black smoke could be seen by motorists passing junction 10 for Walsall and Wolverhampton.

Two crews, one from Walsall and another from West Bromwich, attended to reports of what was first



The plumes of smoke near the M6

thought to be a bush fire yesterday at 11.50am.

The fire service confirmed the blaze was later suspected to be started on purpose.

A spokesman said: "We were called at 11.52am to the Showcase Cinema at Bentley Mill Way, Bentley, Willenhall. The initial call was to a bush fire between the cinema and motorway.

"The incident actually involved 20 truck tyres and various shrubbery on fire on waste ground to the rear of the cinema car park.

"We sent two crews from West Bromwich and Walsall. They used one main water jet. The fire was put down as being deliberate. The stop message came in for us at 1.16am."

West Midlands Police were informed about the blaze.

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## Borough in deal for new play sessions

New play centres will launch across Sandwell to replace a long-standing service which is to close after losing out on funding. Sandwell Council has agreed a deal with four voluntary groups to deliver after-school sessions.

Concerns were raised by parents when it emerged Sandwell Adventure Play Association (SAPA) had lost out on £300,000 after its application for funding was turned down.

SAPA has been based in the borough for almost 50 years providing childcare services after school and during holidays for working parents. Council bosses have now confirmed the cash will instead be used for a series of new sessions.

They will be run by the Murray Hall Community in Rowley Regis, The Albion Foundation in Smethwick, Creative Academies in West Bromwich, while Groundwork West Midlands will run sessions in Tipton, Oldbury and Wednesbury.

Details of where the sessions will be held will be announced over the coming weeks, the council said. Sandwell Council leader Steve Eling said: "We are absolutely committed to funding good quality, well-organised, free play sessions for children and we're now finalising arrangements with the successful groups to start their new clubs and groups at the beginning of April.

"Unfortunately SAPA was not successful in securing this funding.

"These sessions will now be run in all of our towns and will be accessible to more children."

## Sex exploitation figures revealed

POLICE have declared problems with children being exploited for sex are no worse in Walsall than neighbouring areas after it emerged 130 youngsters in the borough were 'at risk'.

This week Walsall Council revealed the number of cases had increased by nearly 60 per cent in three months.

But the authority stated the rise was down to better reporting and more awareness around the issue.

A police spokesman said: "All communities are affected by this serious crime, though there is no greater threat of child sexual exploitation in Walsall than anywhere else in the region, and West Midlands Police continues to make great strides in identifying and protecting those at risk. CSE has traditionally been deemed a 'hidden' crime."

## On the lookout for sea cadets

YOUTH charity Sea Cadets, which has bases in Walsall, is recruiting. The charity is looking for 10 to 17 year olds searching for new adventures. To find out more, visit [www.sea-cadets.org/find-your-nearest-unit](http://www.sea-cadets.org/find-your-nearest-unit).



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# Fashion tycoon must pay ex-wife £2.7m



Glen Briers

MORE than a decade after their divorce, a fashion tycoon's ex-wife has won a £2.7 million stake in his fortune after he was condemned as a controlling liar.

Glen Briers, a former teacher from Willenhall, built a £30m sports and street-wear empire from the family garage in the 1980s, starting his business with just £81 of his own money.

By the time he split with fellow teacher Nicola Briers in 2002, after 18 years of marriage and three children, the business was turning over £1m a year.

And it has since grown into a major fashion chain, with branches country-wide and incorporating brands Lambretta and Vision Streetwear.

When the couple divorced, Mr Briers, aged 61, gave his wife, aged 58, £150,000 to pay off the mortgage and she kept their £700,000 family home. She also got a £10,000-a-year salary, plus child maintenance - but he kept the business, which is now said to be worth £10 million.

After her relationship with her new partner broke down, Mrs Briers went to the divorce courts asking for

more. And in 2015 Judge Mark Rogers handed her a £2.7m slice of her ex's fortune, made up of a £1.6 million lump sum and 25 per cent of his pension.

In his ruling, Judge Rogers declared Mr Briers 'a liar' who tried to play down his wealth.

Mr Briers challenged the judge's decision at the Court of Appeal, insisting his ex-wife should get only £500,000. He argued it was far too late for her to go back on their 'clean break'.

But now three senior judges have thrown out his complaint.



Nicola Briers

# Primary school in lowest rating for a second year

**WEAK teaching, work that is too easy, poor pupil progress and an ineffective governing body.**

A Walsall primary school, which has more than 300 pupils on its books, has been heavily criticised by education watchdogs who have given it the lowest rating for the second time in two years.



The school in Blakenall

Ofsted inspectors went in to Edgar Stammers in Blakenall in November and in its report, have rated it 'Inadequate' - the same as inspectors did after visiting in May 2015. Leadership and teaching

ing were two of the main areas singled out for criticism with a high staff turnover underlined as one of the biggest factors.

The Ofsted report said: "Leaders have not addressed effectively several of the areas for improvement identified at the last inspection.

"The responsibility for advising teachers on how to plan lessons and for checking on their work has been given to middle leaders, some of whom have lacked the confidence and range of skills to fulfil these roles effectively.

"A high turnover of staff has worsened the difficulties. The result is that much teaching, especially in the older years, remains weak."

The level of work for able pupils was deemed too easy and students' progress in English, science and mathematics was ruled not good enough. The report continued: "Pupils rarely develop their writing skills in other subjects. Most current pupils, including those who are disadvantaged, are not making expected progress in English and mathematics. Achievement in science is poor."

Governors also came under fire from the watchdog which stated: "Although since the last inspection governors have become increasingly aware of the school's strengths and weaknesses, they have not identified quickly enough when leaders' strategies were having little or no impact."

Tricia Bunn, headteacher since January 1, said: "The inspection report is disappointing but everyone involved in the school is determined to bring about the required improvements to raise standards and attainment."

## Newly-criminalised drugs pledge



Chief Inspector Simon Inglis, left, warning over the use of synthetic cannabinoid products

POLICE have vowed that people using newly-criminalised drugs face arrest. The West Midlands force aims to raise awareness of a law change which now sees synthetic cannabis classed as a Class B substance.

The Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 has been changed to include 'synthetic cannabinoids' - substances which mimic the effects of cannabis, known as Spice and Mamba. These drugs are believed to be

commonly used and officers said people could use them, unaware of the change in legislation.

Chf Insp Simon Inglis, who is the force lead for drugs and new psychoactive substances, said: "This law change makes Spice and Mamba controlled as Class B drugs under the Misuse of Drugs Act, MDA. Until recently such products were covered by the Psychoactive Substances Act, which was introduced last year, that

made production and supply of such products criminal offences but possession was still not illegal.

"All of that has now changed with the revised legislation and the key thing for people to know is that possession of these substances is now a crime. Any change in the law takes time to bed in and for awareness to grow, however people who routinely carry these drugs need to change their ways - and quick."

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### People unhappy with rail services

PASSENGER satisfaction with Britain's railways has fallen by two percentage points over the past 12 months, new figures show.

Some 81 per cent of passengers were satisfied with their journeys in autumn last year, according to a survey of more than 29,000 people by watchdog Transport Focus.

This compares with 83 per cent in autumn 2015. The proportion of passengers satisfied with punctuality/reliability dropped from 78 per cent to 73 per cent compared with autumn 2015.

Transport Focus chief executive Anthony Smith said the results were disappointing.

### Poppies effort brings in £10k

CUSTOMERS and staff at Walsall Saddlers Shopping Centre helped raised nearly £10,000 for the Royal British Legion during last year's poppy appeal.

The impressive sum, confirmed in recent days, came after volunteers from the legion were in the centre between October 27 and November 11 selling poppies and collecting donations. A certificate has now been presented to the venue.

Saddlers manager Melvin Glasby said: "I would like to thank all our customers."

### Fizzogs join Cake show's line-up

BLACK Country dancing grannies comedy team The Fizzogs have been added to the line-up for a show in aid of Wolverhampton's Light House Media Centre on February 12.

Comedian Mrs Barbara Nice, star of Phoenix Nights, is part of the fundraising show at 2pm. Comedy with Cake show is part of efforts to raise £100,000 to keep the cultural venue and its cinema open. Tickets are £8 from the venue in The Chubb Buildings, Fryer Street, on 01902 716055.

### Coffee and wine bar to replace pub

PLANS to turn a former pub into a coffee shop and wine bar are set to get the go ahead after being recommended for approval by planning officers.

The site where The Cedar Tree pub once stood, on Walsall Wood Road, Aldridge, became a Co-Operative food shop in 2013.

However, the site has been disused since the shop closed two years ago. The new plans will be discussed at a Walsall planning committee meeting next Thursday.

### Skip fire tackled

A BLAZE of waste materials in a skip behind The New Art Gallery has been tackled. Firefighters from Walsall found the blaze at around 6.51pm last Tuesday. They put out the fire by 7.43pm.

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## THE BEST OF PETER RHODES



THANKS for your favourite crossword clues. I particularly enjoyed the four-letter name for a sport, beginning with a T. It is, of course, golf.

A GROUP of Morris dancers in Essex are trying to recruit new members and say the pastime may appeal to eccentrics. And there's the problem. You cannot advertise for eccentrics because true eccentrics have no idea they are eccentric.

THANKS for your letters and emails on the subject of Morris dancers blacking-up and causing some offence. The vast majority were in support of an allegedly noble old English tradition (for which I can find very little hard evidence) and against "political correctness gone mad." I dare say the key question is this: since we became aware that blacking-up can cause offence, has the number of blacked-up Morris men decreased or increased?

A REPORT to Parliament reveals that some women are forced to wear high heels, make-up and revealing clothing by company workplace dress codes. This is clearly unfair. However, these issues tend to go off in all sorts of unexpected directions. How long before a woman wins the right to go to work in a nice, slouchy one-sie and a comfortable pair of old Crocs, even if the workplace in question is the chorus line of Chicago.

PRINCE Charles says if weather reports contained climate-change news, people would be "more inclined to think about the longer term."



who travels by limousine, plane or helicopter. Maybe such reports could include a running total of HRH's flights?

AN expert on broadcasting was singing the praises of digital on the Beeb, claiming that a modern DAB radio gives you access to hundreds of radio stations. Okay, but most of us listen not to hundreds or even dozens of stations but to one, or possibly two. In fact, the greatest techno-leap forward for people like me would be a network which guaranteed crystal-clear Radio 4 in the home, car and on public transport, 24/7. They haven't invented it yet.

SOME years ago we had a long-running thread on Swifties, those one-liners where the final word creates a joke, as in: "Use your own toothbrush!" Tom bristled," or "This is mutiny." Bill exclaimed bountifully." The Museum of Curiosity (Radio 4) this week gave us what must be the ultimate Swiftie: "I have 1,760 yards of paddy fields," he said with a wry smile."

**Don't miss Peter Rhodes every Monday to Friday in your Express & Star**

# Festival to become bigger and better

THE Black Country Festival will become bigger and better under agreed plans to invest £200,000 in to the event and spread it out across all four authority areas.

The three-year plan will see a Lye-based Balti Festival, more Black Country Beer Festivals and themed night and day events.

The scheme, which will see three people employed to focus on the

event's expansion, will begin this year. It was approved at last week's Black Country Local Enterprise Partnership meeting. The festival which started in 2014, celebrates the region's best traditions and attractions on and around Black Country Day on July 14.

Up until now all this has been achieved largely through volunteers, but by setting a three-year budget of

£200,000, three paid staff could be employed to help expand the festival.

Co-organiser of the festival, Steve Edwards, said: "Over the last three years the festival has been expanding, but to have help through the LEP to make it even bigger will be absolutely fantastic."

The report, presented by Sarah Middleton, chief executive of the Black Country Consortium Ltd,

states: "Over the next three years Black Country Festival Committee, will work throughout 2017 to develop existing relationships and forge new ones with community groups, businesses and local councils in Sandwell, Walsall and Wolverhampton with a view to developing the Black Country Festival in July in these areas, and with a view to extending this further in 2018."

# Care agency told it is 'unresponsive' by CQC

By Jordan Harris

**A BLACK Country care agency failed to 'protect people from potential abuse and harm', according to inspectors.**

Civicare Midlands Ltd, which is based on High Road in Willenhall, was found by the Care Quality Commission (CQC) to be 'badly led and unresponsive to people's needs'.

The agency was placed in special measures following a CQC visit in August - with bosses told to make the necessary improvements in six months or face further action.

Inspectors returned in November, and a subsequent report said that while improvements had been made 'they had failed to make sufficient improvements overall to improve the service and remained in breach of multiple regulations'.

The report said that a person under Civicare's care had told a member of staff that they may be experiencing abuse, however, this information was not taken to police, or a senior member of the company.

After speaking with the company and the supervisor responsible, inspectors said they found that neither understood the correct procedures for reporting abuse and protecting people from harm, the report continued.

Inspectors said that Civicare had improved in terms of effectiveness, care and responsiveness, but the firm would be kept in special measures and continue to be monitored over the next six months.

The report said: "At the inspection completed in November 2016 we found the provider had made improvements and was now meeting the regulations around providing safe and person-centred care."

Director Nash Khosla said: "We are disappointed with what's happened and we are taking things up with the CQC. We are not happy with the report. We feel there are a lot of discrepancies with it between how the service is and what has been reflected in the report."

## Rescue dog is converted to All Black



Manager Michelle Owen from Rowley Regis, with Zinzan the greyhound at Bark Inn Kennels, in Walsall

ZINZAN the greyhound has become an honorary All Black after taking the same name of a New Zealand rugby legend. The three-year-old pooch was named after Zinzan Brooke in tribute to the former player's fundraising work for a Walsall greyhound rehoming centre.

The retired Kiwi number eight, who played 58 tests for the All Blacks, teamed up with John Woodward of Wolverhampton-based demolition firm C & D Consultancy to raise money for Bark Inn Kennels, near Aldridge.

When the black greyhound arrived at the kennels to be rehomed, staff decided to name him after Mr Brooke in honour of his fundraising efforts. But it was not long before Zinzan found a new home, and within a week of his arrival at the kennels he had been adopted.

Michelle Owen, manager of Bark Inn Kennels, said: "We decided to name him Zinzan and we had hoped to take a photograph of Zinzan Brooke with Zinzan the dog. But he was rehomed so quickly that there wasn't time. It's great he found a new home so quickly."

So far Mr Woodward and Mr Brooke, who have known each other for many years, have raised more than £2,000 for the kennels. They will hold a third fundraiser, An Evening With Zinzan Brooke, at the Copthorne Hotel, Brierley Hill on February 2, at 7.15pm.

Money donated from the event will go towards food, the maintenance of the kennels, veterinary treatment and transport costs. Tickets for the fundraiser cost £50 plus VAT. To book call 01902 244220.

# Probe goes on after uni student in crash dies

POLICE are to carry on their investigations to find out how a student driving back to university died after a crash on the M6.

Demi Nicholson's car hit the central reservation between junction 9



Demi Nicholson for Wednesbury and junction 10 for Walsall and Wolverhampton at about 11.15pm on January 6. The 21-year-old died in hospital a day later.

She was driving back to university in Liverpool after spending her Christmas holidays with family in Gloucester.

An inquest was opened at the Black Country Coroner's Court last Wednesday and adjourned for police to continue their investigation.

Sgt Alan Hands, from West Midlands Police's collision investigation unit, said Miss Nicholson had been driving in the motorway's outside lane before her car collided with the central reservation. It was then hit by a BMW, which had also been travelling in the same lane. She was treated by paramedics and taken to the Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Birmingham but died on January 7.

The BMW's driver was due to be interviewed by police under caution within the next fortnight.

Sgt Hands said officers have studied dashcam footage from lorries which had been using the motorway at the same time as Miss Nicholson. The driver of a black car which had driving along the M6 is still being sought by police to help with their investigation, he said.

Senior Black Country coroner Zafar Siddique adjourned the inquest until March 8.

Anyone with information is asked to call West Midlands Police on 101 or email FL COLLISION\_INVEST@west-midlands.pnn.police.uk.

## Woman robbed of £420 in drains con

POLICE are investigating claims a bogus drain cleaner has struck in the Pheasey area.

West Midlands Police received reports of a man approaching an elderly woman on her drive and informing her that he had to clean the drains and it would cost £420 after a pensioner discount.

As she did not have enough money the victim went to get it from the bank. On returning to the house there was an argument between the man and the victim's husband who refused to pay. The offender left but the cash was stolen.

The bogus workman is described as being white, aged about 50 and 5ft 11in tall, of large build and clean shaven. It's thought he was driving a white Transit van.

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# Homes for over-55s to be built by year's end

MULTI-MILLION pound plans to build more than 60 homes for people aged over 55 in the Black Country will be complete this year.

Walsall-based housing firm whg is building 66 homes on Carl Street in Leamore, Walsall, at a development known as Keelson Pointe. The homes will only be available to those 55 or over. The £7.8 million canalside scheme, which is being developed by Kier Group plc, began in September 2015 and is estimated for completion in May 2017.

The 66 homes for rent will be split into 33 one-bedroom and 33 two-bedroom self contained apartments, spread out over four floors.

Each apartment features a walk-in shower, gas boiler and washer dryer.

The development also includes a communal lounge for social and leisure activities, a treatment room for health services such as chiropody services, a lift to all floors and ample car parking spaces. There will also be a garden and courtyard area.

Clare Thomas, whg's head of health and wellbeing, said: "Work at Keelson Pointe is progressing really well and we are already starting to see great interest from potential customers."

"These new homes will complement whg's existing portfolio of well-being schemes, which are designed to give customers aged 55 and over the opportunity to live their lives independently."

To find out more about Keelson Pointe, call 0300 555 6666 or email enquiries@whgrp.co.uk

# Tourism students given top tips

A CHILDREN's entertainer gave travel and tourism students at Walsall College some industry tricks as they prepare to plan and deliver their own entertainment.

Known as PJ the Showman, Pete Goldsmith has more than 15 years' experience in the entertainment industry. He performs at birthday parties and magic shows, but has also worked at a number of UK holiday centres, including Butlins.

His talk covered all the different aspects that go into organising an entertainment programme.

Travel and tourism lecturer Gina Turner said: "Hearing first hand from someone currently working in the industry was very valuable to the students' research."

# Scheme for flats 'against the law'

PLANS to convert town centre offices into 11 flats have been refused by council bosses, but were deemed to be unlawful. The plans for 129 and 130 Lichfield Street, Walsall, were submitted in December.

# Plenty of seasonal cheer at Marston's



Marston's Brewery at Chapel Ash

PUBS and breweries group Marston's has reported good trading over the Christmas and new year period.

The Wolverhampton-based company's annual general meeting heard that for the 16 weeks to January 21 in its destination and premium pubs, like-for-like sales were 1.5 per cent ahead of last year including like-for-like food sales growth of 0.6 per cent.

Plans to open at least 20 new pub-restaurants and bars and five lodges in the current financial year are on track. In brewing the group's own-brewed volume sales are up three

per cent in the year to date. Marston's chief executive Ralph Findlay said: "We traded well over the Christmas period with like-for-like sales growth for the fifth successive year despite tough comparatives. In brewing, we have once again have achieved good growth with a particularly strong performance in the off-trade."

Expectations for the group for the full year are unchanged. Results for the half year to April 1 will be announced on May 17. Marston's, which employs around 14,000, has an estate of 1,569 pubs around the country

including managed, franchised and leased pubs. It is the UK's leading brewer of premium cask and bottled ales, including Marston's Pedigree, Wainwright and Hobgoblin. The beer portfolio also includes Banks's, Jennings, Wychwood, Ringwood, Brakspear and Mansfield beers.

Profit more than doubled at Marston's for the year to the start of October to £80.8m with sales hitting an all-time record £905.8m Marston's is spending £140m in the present financial year on new pubs and revamping existing properties.

# Children identified as being 'at risk' top 100

MORE than 100 children in Walsall have been identified as being at risk of sexual exploitation.

Four of the 130 youngsters are considered to be at the 'highest level' of risk. Walsall Council bosses, who released the figures, have said the issue is a priority.

The number relates to how many children were identified as 'at risk' between October and December last year.

The authority said 82 of those were known in the previous three-month period – meaning a significant increase of 48 new cases. In 16 of the cases the level of risk was said to have lowered. Councillor Rose Burley, for children's services, said: "The issue of child sexual exploitation (CSE) is seen as a national and council priority and we take that and our response to this risk very seriously in Walsall."

"There are many different methods and approaches to sexually exploit children and young people and more often than not, the child may not even be aware they're being abused. Children can be abused no matter what their background is, culture or where they live."

## Undergo

The authority has said the reason for the increase in new cases is down to a better awareness of child sexual exploitation.

Councillor Burley said: "Our local safeguarding children board delivers training and awareness raising sessions for professionals and volunteers who work directly with, or who may come into contact with, children and young people. It helps them become the 'eyes and ears' across Walsall to this risk. All elected members also undergo this training."

"This training has resulted in more children who are at a lower level of risk being identified earlier on, which enables us to work with them, their parents and carers to keep them safe. Children's and adults social care teams, together with our partners, are working to support children, young people and their parents to ensure they are aware of the dangers, kept safe and are not further exposed to this risk."

A report states: "Walsall Safeguarding Children Board continues to provide leadership in this area. Partners across Walsall have made significant progress in embedding processes and practice that will enable children and young people who are at risk of, or are being sexually exploited, to be identified and supported."

## Charity stampede in shopping centre



The first ever charity fun run around Merry Hill shopping centre, which was led by Pure Gym

THERE was a stampede in the aisles of the Merry Hill shopping centre – but it wasn't the latest sale. Eager athletes descended on the centre for an indoor charity run.

Led by Pure Gym, the group started with fun warm-ups before running the perimeter of the centre before shops opened at 11am on Sunday. A spokesman

for Intu, which owns Merry Hill, said: "After Christmas, in January, everyone wants to get fit and healthy again and we wanted to help our customers as well as helping with charity."

"We thought it would be nice to hold a charity run inside the centre and would be fun to run around Merry Hill. We invited people of any age and any ability and it was a really successful event."

The event was raising money for Wolverhampton-based Promise Dreams. Promise Dreams' corporate relationship manager, Dan Smith, 29, said: "It was really good fun."

"It's a chance for people to do something to keep them healthy and raise a bit of money for the charity, which is great."

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Former Walsall Archdeacon dies

THE first Archdeacon of Walsall has died. Tony Sadler, 80, had been ill for some time and he died on January 16. He was ordained in Lichfield in 1962 and served in churches all across the diocese.



Tony Sadler

Then in 1997 he became the first Archdeacon of Walsall. He held the post until his retirement in 2004 when he moved to Wales. Tributes have been paid to Mr Sadler.

Right Rev Michael Bourke, former Bishop of Wolverhampton, said: "He was the ideal person to establish this new role. A man of great pastoral gifts and deep spirituality, he quickly won the confidence of the clergy and parishes."

His funeral is at Lichfield Cathedral at 2pm on February 7.

### Sickness bug closes school

PUPILS and staff were told to stay at home for two days after a sickness bug broke out at a Walsall academy.

The West Walsall E-ACT Academy, in Primley Avenue, was closed on Tuesday and Wednesday last week.

It has 622 pupils on its roll and is run by E-ACT, which operates 24 free schools or academies across the country. They include the Willenhall E-ACT Academy and Reedswood E-ACT Primary Academy in Bentley Drive, Walsall.

An E-ACT spokesman said the academy had informed parents. "West Walsall E-ACT Academy has been closed temporarily due to a sickness bug. Parents and pupils have been informed through text message, letter and email." The academy said it would re-open to staff and pupils today.

### Railway disruption after signal fault

A SIGNALLING fault at Walsall railway station caused afternoon disruption to services travelling through the town. The incident happened at 2.30pm last Wednesday. London Midland confirmed many of its services were disrupted with some trains being stopped at Tame Bridge.

The operator advised people in Walsall trying to get to Wolverhampton that they would have to try and get to Tame Bridge or alternatively New Street. Normal services were not able to resume until after 4pm. It followed widespread disruption on the lines when a lorry ploughed into a rail bridge in Blake Street in Four Oaks.

### HSBC branch to close

HSBC in Market Place, Willenhall, is to close on May 12 when part of the bank's latest wave of closures. The branch is one of 62 to close by the end of 2017 along with ones in Chase Terrace and the Castle Bromwich and Balsall Common branches in Birmingham.

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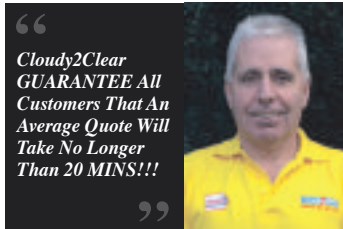
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IN MY VIEW  
with Mark Andrews



# Speed fines hike needs to trap the boy racers

TOUGHER laws for motorists come into force from April, with really stiff fines for the worst offenders.

For example, people caught speeding at 50mph in a 30mph zone can expect to be fined £1,000, with fines rising to up to £2,500 for the worst cases.

And to be blunt, I don't see the problem with it. Ok, driving bans for people doing 11mph over the limit seem a bit excessive, but I guess we'll just have to be careful.

Driving at 50mph in a built-up area is selfish, irresponsible, and dangerous. If it is sensibly enforced, those caught deserve to be hit in the pocket.

That is a big 'if', though. These things are never sensibly enforced.

I remember some time, about 15 years ago or so, there was a stretch of road in Cannock where the speed limit changed suddenly from 50mph to 30.

And you've guessed it, within a few yards of the sign was a carefully-concealed speed camera. A friend who worked in the area said it was well known to locals, and was always catching people out.

And that is the trouble with this sort of thing. I'm all in favour of throwing the book at self-centred boy racers with a casual disregard for public safety. If you ask me, fining them £2,500 is nowhere near enough. You can put 'em in the stocks and make 'em watch Howard's Way for all I care. I can be really sadistic like that.

But it never works out like that does it? Targeting the bad guys takes time, effort and money.

And "road safety partnerships" always seem more motivated by "working with partners in local government" to set up confusing new road layouts with onerous speed limits, which generate funds "to invest in other road safety measures". In other words, more cameras.

Expect to see more pensioners and working people being hit with crippling fines as they get caught out by new speed limits and hidden cameras. Meanwhile, the boy racers quickly work out where the speed traps are and move on to somewhere else.

□□□

WONDERFUL to see the traffic cones have now arrived for the extension to the Midland Metro tram line, which will mean an end to people having to walk 400 yards from the railway station.

What's more, for a cost to the taxpayer of £15 million, commuters will soon be able to travel from Wolverhampton station to Birmingham New Street – in more than double the time it takes on the train.



Telford's elegant Georgian stone bridge at Bewdley



Engineer Thomas Telford never forgot his humble origins



Pontcysyllte Aquaduct – known as the 'Stream in the Sky'

# The man of iron who helped build Britain

A new book by Julian Glover hails Thomas Telford as Britain's greatest ever engineer

**"TELFORD, for people on the move" went the early slogan for the new town created in Shropshire in the late 1960s.**

And it turns out that that slogan captured much of the spirit of the great engineer after whom the town was named.

"He was always moving on," says Julian Glover, who has written a major new biography of Thomas Telford which has just been published and is BBC Radio 4 Book of the Week. "His life was all about movement. Never settled, always restless."

His book, called Man of Iron, hails Thomas Telford as a British great.

"I think Telford has been overlooked a little bit. He was Britain's greatest civil engineer," said Julian.

"Telford was a really significant figure in the creation of our country and our history and in shaping the skills of engineering which went on to change the world.

"My book tells the story of who he was, where he came from, and what he created. That's what I've tried to write, not just about structures and engineering, but the impact on his world."

Telford was not a Salopian, and neither is Julian, but as his parents have a home at Ditton Priors, near Bridgnorth, and he grew up knowing Telford's name.

In doing his research, he began at the place where 'Tammy Telfer' was born in humble circumstances, the son of an Eskdale shepherd in Dumfries, Scotland.

"I thought there was an extraordinary journey from a boy on the Scottish borders who might have spent his whole life looking after sheep, to a man who came to Shropshire and built great canals and the Pontcysyllte aqueduct.

"I began to explore his story and look in the



A horse drawn cargo being led beneath Telford's Galton Bridge, Smethwick, in the 1930s

archives, a lot of which are in London.

"People who met him were impressed by two things. One was that he was very practical. He was proud of where he came from and did not try to put on airs and graces, or spend money or buy a big house when successful. He was always proud of being a shepherd boy.

## Jolly

"They saw him as strong and solid, not a fancy city person. The second thing they saw was that he was very good company, big, bluff, with a broad face. A lot of hair, did not dress up in flash clothes, very jolly with a lot of anecdotes, and friendly and generous. He gave a lot of money away. And he was absolutely driven, really hard working."

It was in Shropshire that Telford made his name, says Julian, and many of the best projects he worked on can still be found in the

county, or nearby in Wales or the Black Country.

He arrived in the county in late 1786, doing reconstruction at Shrewsbury Castle, and was soon busy with a wide range of projects, from building bridges and churches to doing excavations at Wroxeter Roman City, and had the role of county surveyor.

He designed Bridgnorth's neo-classical Church of St Mary Magdalene and the unusual octagonal church of St Michael's at Madeley.

After River Severn floods caused havoc in Shropshire and Worcestershire, he designed bridges for Buildwas, Bridgnorth and Bewdley.

He found fame as a builder of roads, bridges and canals. His major projects included linking the East and West coasts of Scotland via the Caledonian Canal and he also transformed the canal network in Birmingham and the Black

Country.

One of his final projects was Galton Bridge at Smethwick, named after Samuel Galton of Birmingham's Lunar Society of pioneer industrialists. Built to Telford's design in 1829, the cast iron road bridge with its single span of 151 feet was a marvel of the later Georgian age. It spans James Brindley's canal, which Telford had improved, and still stands near the rail station which is named after it.

Although Shropshire was his home, he did not have a Shropshire home as such.

"The question of where Telford lived is a challenging one. He lived where the work was. Early on he did stay in the castle and letters are written in the castle.

"He stayed a lot of time in Ellesmere where he always kept a sort of office in the canal company offices there. It was not a home. It was a place I imagine he kept some of his clothes or belongings.

"He would often stay with Archibald Alison at his rectory somewhere near Market Drayton."

As part of his research Julian, who lives in London, delved into archives at the Ironbridge Gorge Museum's Museum of Iron, and came to see some of the structures for which Telford was responsible in the county, such as the iron aqueduct at Longdon-on-Tern.

"I think the Longdon aqueduct is amazing because it's so early and looks like a completely modern thing.

## Suspension

"Two other favourites are both in Wales. One is the Menai Bridge, the world's first big suspension bridge. And then the other one is Pontcysyllte aqueduct just over the border, which is a World Heritage Site. When you go to see it, it never disappoints."

As for the town which bears Telford's name, Julian says he has seen it grow, and has been struck by two things – the success in landscaping an industrial environment and the respect shown for the industrial heritage of the area.

"It did not try to hide from the past. It was unusual at the time for a town to do that.

"A lot of places in Britain neglected their past, Telford cherished it."

Man of Iron, published by Bloomsbury, £25.

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# Dismay at town's decline

I HAVE lived in Brownhills all my life and I never dreamed that I would feel ashamed of the place of my birth.

Derelict shops, vandalism, smashed windows in The Park View Centre and Silver Street Methodist Church, including numerous shops and business premises. Fly-tipping and litter strewn streets, hedgerows and grass verges.

I fully accept it is the uncaring anti-social minority who cause most of the problems. I certainly do not blame Clean and Green staff who have to work within constraints of available manpower, rules and boundaries to keep our streets clean.

Burglary is becoming a frequent occurrence and I fully appreciate concerns of the few remaining traders struggling to provide a service to customers. Derelict shops and flats in Ravens Court are a particular blot on the landscape. Not to mention the other eyesore - Jubilee Gardens also in the High Street.

Ravens Court is a glaring example of shoddy 1960s planning and should be replaced by a whole new development of affordable shopping units. During the Second World War Brownhills Urban District Council managed to keep our thriving town clean and tidy. In post-war years and beyond

## Help is needed through grants

NOBODY thinks cancer will happen to their child. Until it does. When cancer strikes it affects more than just a young person's health. A cancer diagnosis shatters families emotionally and physically.

CLIC Sargent is the UK's leading support charity for children and young people with cancer and their families. It is now in the running to win a charity partnership with the supermarket Morrisons, worth up to £7 million. If we win, we'll be able to double the amount of financial grants we give to families, increase specialist nursing support for young patients, and transform our services. We urge Morrisons employees in the West Midlands to join team CLIC Sargent in our fight by voting for us to become their new charity partner.

To find out more visit the website at [www.clicsargent.org.uk/morrisons](http://www.clicsargent.org.uk/morrisons)

ANNA OLIVER  
CLIC Sargent Fundraising Manager

## POST

Walsall Chronicle, Chronicle Editorial,  
51-53 Queen Street  
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES

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our community was well-served by a wide variety of shops, many of which were family concerns providing a range of consumer goods. At least five banks and building societies provided financial support and service for the whole community. In 2016, just prior to Christmas, Brownhills lost its one remaining bank.

Over the years there has been a slow degeneration in almost every facet of our community life and I firmly believe that the Local Government boundary changes in 1974 when Aldridge / Brownhills became constituent parts as District Centres of Walsall MBC started the downward spiral.

Is the ultimate aim to be a Greater Birmingham authority, thus providing well remunerated jobs for a large number of power seekers rather like the European Union?

**DOUGLAS BIRCH MBE**  
President, Brownhills  
Local Committee

## Road needs to be cleaned up

WHEN is somebody going to do something about the state of Stubbers Green Road, between the Aldridge Sailing Club and the canal bridge, where the brickworks is?

In the week a lorry had shed some clay on the road, it took me an hour and a half to get it off my car.

Every car that went down that road must have been the same.

When are the council going to do something? Someone should be fined, like they do if you drop litter.

**D R LOCKER**  
Broad Lane, Pelsall

## Heartbreaking end for poor dog

AFTER reading the heartbreaking article about the person who punched and stabbed his dog, only for the dog to be destroyed because of the type of breed she was...

It seems completely unfair to me that the innocent dog was put down.

**JUDY BARNETT**  
Sneyd Lane  
Bloxwich

## It could be just a matter of time before another fatality

AS a long time disability awareness campaigner and a political activist, I wish to urge the residents of West Bromwich Road, WS5 postcode, to contact their local councillors and Walsall Council Highways department.

I would like people to make their voices heard regarding the increasing near misses and fatalities that we have endured on this stretch of road. The road was widened in some parts to three lanes of traffic, and the speed of motorists has increased. I have assisted alongside MP Valerie Vaz and before her; lobbied Bruce George to get some traffic calming measures installed ie speed cameras or recently a Watchman sign like the one situated on the Broadway.

I even received a fleeting visit last year from Steve Pretty, head of en-

gineering and transportation. He offered reassurances that the problems with this main road would be taken seriously and measures put in place to slow down the speeding traffic.

Unfortunately this has never happened, recently we had another fatality and whenever I speak with the council it's always the same story, 'Other roads in the borough are higher priority'. Harden Road in Leamore has had extensive measures taken by installing mini islands and speed bumps and yet the road is nowhere near as busy as this one.

Excuse my cynicism but it would appear that the Delves is the 'forgotten area of Walsall' until election time comes around!

**ANDY BROWN**  
Walsall

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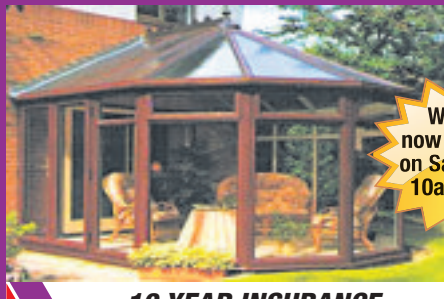
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## Dog Phoebe's skills not to be sniffed at



Senior trading standards officer Lesley Jenkins, tobacco dog handler Stuart Phillips and Phoebe the dog, at Tesco

SNIFFER dogs who hunt out hundreds of thousands of pounds worth of illegal tobacco and cash every year wowed shoppers with their skills.

Talented spaniels Phoebe, Scamp and Yo Yo are used by Black Country councils to sniff out criminal property and met shoppers outside a Brownhills supermarket. They were taken to Tesco in Silver Street to meet shoppers by their handler Stuart Phillips. He said: "It is all a game to them."

He said the raids he is called out to with his dogs usually find between £10,000 and £50,000 of contraband every week. He works closely with

Central England Trading Standards Association (CENTSA), a group of 14 local authorities from the region.

Mr Phillips, from Pembrokeshire, said: "In one raid in Wolverhampton we found £150,000's worth (of illegal tobacco). Unfortunately there is a big problem with illegal tobacco in the West Midlands."

They were accompanied on another visit by Walsall Council's portfolio holder for public protection Councillor Julie Fitzpatrick. She said: "Walsall Council takes the issue of illicit tobacco very seriously indeed. In the last year Trading Standards Walsall

carried out five operations with dogs in the borough to sniff out illicit tobacco. This translates into 106,561 illegal cigarettes and 998 packets of rolling tobacco seized. Highly trained dogs like Yo Yo, Phoebe and Scamp do an amazing job to help protect us from this menace."

"Illicit products like this are not only very damaging to your health, but can damage communities too. Illegal money made from it can support serious crime – and at a local level the illicit tobacco is more readily available to young people and underage buyers because it is sold more cheaply."

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# We will not give up on people of Walsall, vow

**WALSALL Council will not 'give up on the people of Walsall' despite present and impending financial difficulties faced by the authority, a councillor has said.**

Councillor Ian Shires, who represents Willenhall North, has said he believes that by 2020, the authority will be getting 'virtually no support' from the Government, who he claims will have 'virtually washed its hands of all responsibility for supporting local services' by that time.

As the council looks to finalise its budget for the next four years, which is set to be agreed next month, councillor Shires claims that he feels the borough will be 'going it alone' after 2020 and said that he hopes the authority will look to ensure it spends 'every penny' wisely in the future.

## Desperate

Drastic cuts are looming over the borough at present, with the cash-strapped council poised to axe The New Art Gallery alongside museums, libraries and youth services in a desperate bid to save £85 million over four years, including £31m in the next financial year.

Council leader Sean Coughlan also refused to rule out cutting hundreds of council jobs and calling for a referendum to raise council tax by more than 3.99 per cent when the first budget proposals were released last October.

Councillor Shires said: "By 2020 Walsall Council will be getting virtually no support from the Government. The council will have to rely on local council tax and business rates.

"Theresa May's Government will have virtually washed its hands of all



**Councillor Ian Shires, who says the council cannot rely on Government handouts** responsibility for supporting local services.

"Their grant funding to local councils which is used to pay for bin collections, school crossing patrols, libraries, social workers, foster parents, street cleaning, road repairs and much, much more will have been removed entirely. "Going it alone should not mean that we should give up on the people of Walsall.

"The new coalition administration needs to put in place the changes that will necessarily change the way

in which the council delivers its services."

Residents have called for senior staff and executives to have their pay slashed instead of controversial council tax changes being enforced.

Calls have also been made to reduce the number of councillors in the borough as an alternative to heaping the pressure on Walsall's poorest families.

Councillor Shires said: "We will now do what we can to incorporate some of the alternative views you have put forward in your responses."

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# Costly mice infestations for borough takeaways

## Girls hope to reign in Spain at football contest



Millfield Primary School's successful girls' football team

THE most successful girls' school football team in Walsall look set to storm a major football tournament – if it can raise money to take part.

Millfield Primary School's Years 5 and 6 team sit atop the Walsall Primary Football Girls' League Division One. They are undefeated this season and four points clear at the top of the league, with an impressive goal difference of +17. This is despite the Brownhills school being one of the smallest in borough.

Now the girls' coach Will Stacey wants to take them to the Donosti Cup in Spain either this summer or in 2018.

About £2,000 has been raised so far – but another £4,000 is needed for the tournament, which will be held in San Sebastian. Starters in the school's committed team in-

clude captain Lilly Wellington, aged 10, and vice-captain Billie Jean Dixon, 11. Mr Stacey said: "Lily is lightning quick and brilliant. Billie Jean – she just sits in the middle and no-one can get past her." Another of the school's best players is Leila Burford, 10, who currently plays for West Bromwich Albion.

Also the school's Year 4 teacher, Mr Stacey added: "They have worked, worked, worked. They said: 'we don't feel fit enough.' They said: 'can we do swimming before school?'" So now the girls now start swimming at 7.30am once a week and have special fitness sessions twice a week in an effort to boost their football skills. To boost the fundraising visit the school's online page at <https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/millfieldgirlsfc>.

A WALSALL takeaway which describes itself as 'the best' has been shut down because of an 'extensive' mice infestation.

While a second take-out restaurant, this time in Willenhall, must now pay a court bill of almost £2,000 after failing to tackle an infestation of the pests.

Pizza Cottage, on Caldmore Road, Caldmore, was forced to close after environmental officers found the infestation.

It served the premises with an emergency and immediate closure order, which has upheld by magistrates when it was brought to Walsall Magistrates Court days later.

The takeaway, which served pizzas, kebabs and burgers, has a slogan on its website saying: 'You have tried the rest now try the best'.

It was visited by Walsall Council environmental officers and the premises was immediately served with an emergency prohibition order and forced to close. Walsall Council described the find as an 'extensive infestation of mice'.

### Prosecution

The case and the prohibition order was taken to Walsall Magistrates Court on January 19, where magistrates upheld the council's decision to have the premises shut down.

Also appearing at court was Beijing House, based on Bloxwich Road South, in Willenhall, where its owner, Xiao Guo Cai, was fined £400 and ordered to pay prosecution costs of £1,500 after pleading guilty to inadequate procedures to control a pest (mouse) infestation.

Cai apologised to the court for committing the offence and promised magistrates it would not happen again.

However after hearing the facts of the case and the mitigation put forward, the magistrates expressed their disappointment that Cai had been cooking and preparing food in such unhygienic conditions.

As well as the fine of £400 and the prosecution costs of £1,500, Cai was also ordered to pay a victim surcharge of £40, bringing the total to £1,940.

Pizza Cottage, which was last rated in July 2015, has a rating of two saying improvements are necessary. Beijing House has never been rated.

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## Police numbers down 2.3pc

THERE were 163 fewer police officers in the West Midlands – a drop of 2.3 per cent – over the last year, new figures show.

Official data from the Home Office shows there were 6,880 officers patrolling the Black Country and Birmingham in September, down from 7,043, 12 months earlier.

The force also lost a fifth of its police community support officers (PCSOs), down from 570 to 450 – a 21 per cent reduction.

The figures were released a week after it was revealed recorded crime in the force area had rocketed by nine per cent.

Labour Police and Crime Commissioner David Jamieson said: “These figures show the clear need for a fairer funding deal for the West Midlands. Record cuts since 2010 mean we have 163 fewer officers now than last year. By taking tough decisions on things like estates and making efficiencies elsewhere we are stabilising numbers.

“I have already announced the recruitment of 800 police officers, 150 PCSOs and 200 specialist staff over the next three years. Nevertheless we are still facing cuts of £6million of government grant this year.”

## Drugs won't work concern on antibiotics

MORE than 350 people across the Black Country have backed a campaign aimed at protecting antibiotics for future generations by preventing them from becoming obsolete.

Health organisations are actively working to spread the message about the need to use antibiotics responsibly to ensure they can continue to be effective. Setting broken bones, basic operations even chemotherapy all require antibiotics that work. But there is now a growing list of infections such as pneumonia and blood poisoning that are becoming increasingly harder to treat.

This is because some of the drugs previously used no longer work. In Wolverhampton, awareness is being raised through the Wolverhampton Together – Protecting our Antibiotics campaign. This has seen the Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust (RWT) join forces with Wolverhampton CCG, Wolverhampton council's public health team and NHS England.

They encouraging both the public and health workers to show their support by signing up to become an antibiotic guardian and make a pledge about how they can personally prevent infections and make better use of antibiotics. So far more than 350 people have signed up.

### Information plea on former mayor

**A portrait of Councillor Elizabeth Ellen Wilkinson**

A COUNCILLOR who is putting together a history book wants to hear from anyone who may have known former community leader Elizabeth Ellen Wilkinson.

Doug James, who represents the Darlaston North area, called the former Mayor of Darlaston Urban District Council a 'remarkable woman' and has asked for anyone who may have known her to get in touch for a book he is researching for on Black Country heroines.

He said: "Councillor Elizabeth Ellen Wilkinson was a remarkable woman, one of the few who took on such an esteemed role at that time. I would like to hear from any relatives, family or friends of hers. As part of researching this book I have come across several inspirational women whom have played huge roles in our local communities.

"Telling the story of women in local politics may encourage women to fight the every day sexism they encounter which discourages so many talented women from becoming involved in the first place."

### Expectation

New Cross Hospital boss David Loughton said: "We're now seeing the effects of 25 to 30 years ago when people would go to GPs and be given antibiotics when they didn't really need them. If we don't do something about it now, we will have less and less antibiotics that work and we will not be able to treat patients properly."

Ros Jervis, director of public health for Wolverhampton, said: "There is an expectation among some patients that if they go to their GP, they will be going to be given antibiotics. This is what we want to change. Antibiotics don't work against infections caused by viruses so it's no good taking them for a cold."

Anyone can become an antibiotic guardian and the national campaign has so far been backed by almost 44,000 patients and health professionals. To find out more visit the website [www.antibioticguardian.com](http://www.antibioticguardian.com)

## Mother jailed for burglary following row over money

A MOTHER-of-one has been jailed for more than three years after burgling a woman's home in a row over money.

Wolverhampton Crown Court heard how Kacey Moncreiffe, of Birmingham Road, Oldbury, targeted the address at Clews Close, Walsall, on July 30 last year.

The 21-year-old broke into the house while children were still inside. She stole a large quantity of cash and high value clothing. Five months earlier the defendant had carried out a sophisticated fraud at the luxury London department store Harrods, revealed Mr Robert Edwards, prosecuting.

She and accomplices used a fake bank card to buy £1,400 worth of the store's gift cards. But a sales girl became suspicious and alerted security staff who detained them. A subsequent search of a vehicle parked outside the store, revealed a £10,000 haul of further gift cards. Mr Edwards said the women had not been charged with a criminal offence linked to these further cards, but that a criminal investigation was under way to establish where they had come from.

Mr Harbinder Lally, defending, said Moncreiffe was truly remorseful and regretful.

Victim impact statements read out at the start of sentencing heard how the family 'sometimes felt scared' about being in their own home after the burglary. Moncreiffe pleaded guilty to fraud and was found guilty of burglary after a trial and was jailed for a total of three and a half years.

Contact Tracey Thompson on 01902 319645 or email [tracey.thompson@expressandstar.co.uk](mailto:tracey.thompson@expressandstar.co.uk)

\*All prices are subject to VAT



Satisfaction with  
artwork from Wood



The charcoal sketch of Mick Jagger by Ronnie Wood

ROLLING Stone Ronnie Wood has given art fans some Satisfaction by Painting It Black with the second release of his rare and coveted artworks at a Black Country gallery.

Part of The Private Collection, Wood's work will be displayed in Castle Galleries on Victoria Street in Wolverhampton until February 5. Prices start from £795.

The infamous rock star has included some ultra-rare work in this collection including two charcoal etchings, released in 2002 with only 120 editions. The Study for Mick and Study for Keith will be available for purchase for the first time.

There are also works of Guns 'N' Roses guitar god Slash, Jimi Hendrix and Bob Marley. Ian Weatherby-Blythe, managing director of Washington Green Fine Art Group Ltd, said: "There is a true sense of eclecticism, yet all master the connection between art and music."

## Fatal mix of drugs and drink led to man's death

A POPULAR Walsall man died after taking a 'fatal cocktail mix' of drugs and alcohol, an inquest heard.

Stephen Pinner, aged 42, from Castlefort Road, was found dead by a dog walker on playing fields in Coseley, in the early hours of November 16. Drug needles were found near to his body.

A conclusion of a drugs-related death was given. Mr Pinner's brother, Lee Knowles, spoke of him as being a charitable, compassionate person who was a Christian and talented musician. The hearing was told he had also recently returned from rehab in Derby and appeared to have started to 'clean himself up'. Mr Knowles said: "He was a really happy go lucky guy who was always centre of attention and found himself in the Christian faith and was baptised four years ago. He was a fantastic musician and very artistic. He would always be there for others. But his downside was the alcohol. The last time I saw him he had his head in the bible and was well."

Black Country Coroners Court heard how Mr Pinner had been out with a friend on November 15 and they were 'drinking and purchasing various drugs'.

The following morning just before 7.30am a dog walker found him lying face down unconscious on the playing fields off The Cast-

By Clare Butler

ings estate. It was thought that he may have been walking through to get to his bus stop. A full body search was carried out by police officers and no signs of injuries were found. He was identified from his travel ID card and bible, the inquest heard.

A post mortem found that there was evidence of a number of different drugs and alcohol in his system. The cause of death given was heroin and morphine toxicity. Senior Coroner Zafar Siddique said: "The drugs and alcohol all combined together have given a fatal cocktail mix."

"These combined effects led to a respiratory depression that sadly led to his death. It is very clear that he was loved dearly by his family and friends."

Ray Morris, from the Hope Church in West Bromwich which Mr Pinner used to attend, said: "I have known him for about four years and he was dedicated to his faith."

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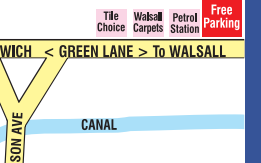
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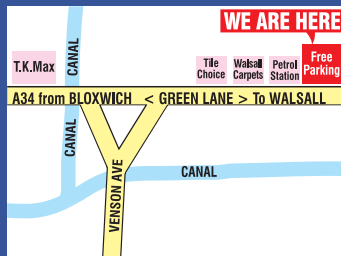
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Sad owner Trisha Uccellini with stock which is being sold off at half price



Fleetwood Mac guitarist Peter Green



Trisha Uccellini with Gabrielle Drake, sister of singer Nick Drake



Wizzard frontman Roy Wood



Trisha Uccellini with her treasure trove of items

# It's vintage finish for costume drama

**A MUCH-LOVED** clothes shop, frequented by rock-world royalty, is closing its doors after 43 years.

Trisha's Vintage Clothing in Wolverhampton has been the must-go-to shop for musicians appearing at the Civic Hall.

Customers calling in for a leather jacket or faux fur waistcoat might well find Roy Wood or Motorhead's Lemmy mooching through the same rails. At the helm of the tiny emporium for all that time has been the eternally fabulous Trisha Uccellini, still a rock chick.

Despite being past retirement age, she is shutting shop not out of choice but to be with her son Marco a website designer who has been diagnosed with a serious illness.

The location in Blossoms Fold, off Darlington Street, was perfect for such a business but its proximity to the Civic was merely a happy accident, it turns out.

"I was very choosy about the location," says Trisha. "It had to be

## MEMORY LANE

By Marion Brennan

in one of Wolverhampton's lovely Victorian folds. It seemed to be in keeping with the vintage theme, although when I started out, I was selling all my own designs with only the odd bit of Victoriana."

That was in January 1974 and actress Gabrielle Drake, who was appearing in panto at The Grand with Trisha's musician husband Georgio, performed the official opening.

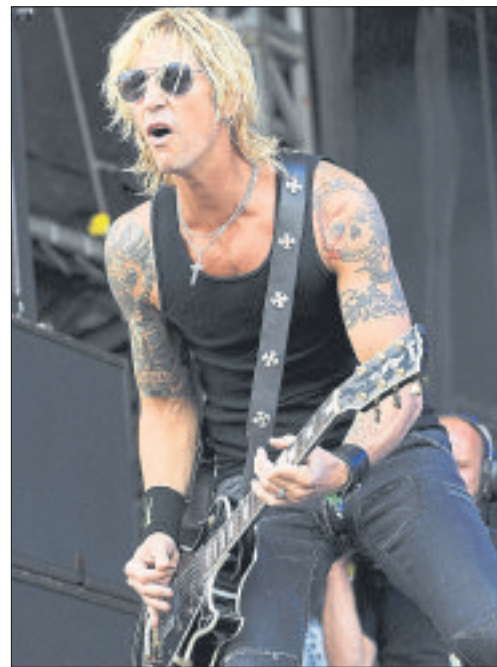
Trisha turned to retail after years of touring with Georgio in Europe. She was bright, a former student of King Edward's School in Camp Hill, Birmingham, where she grew up, but not academic, she says. The family moved to Wolverhampton when she was 14 and even then there were signs that she was destined for a career in fashion. She was developing her own individual style, getting into trouble for wearing a dufflecoat over

her school uniform. Her years on the road with Georgio, who had his own band at the time, later joining 60s pop groups The Fourmost and Freddie and The Dreamers, sowed the seeds of her later career.

She started making stage outfits – flamboyant shirts and flared trousers – for her husband's band, and then for other musicians on the gigging circuit. Young people flocked to her shop – there was nothing like it in Wolverhampton – but she couldn't keep up with demand, eventually forced to give up making her own stock to buy in.

Keeping it authentic she used to travel to New York and Los Angeles to buy her gear. "Ironically I used to get a lot of American bands making a special pilgrimage to my shop for clothes that I'd bought in America," she says.

Eventually she became as well known among the rock community as some of her customers. Famous hands to grace her boutique have been Whitesnake, W.A.S.P., Skindred, Steel Panther, Echo and the Bunnymen, the list goes on.



US musician Duff McKagan's Loaded at Download Festival

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# Plea for more parades cash snubbed by chiefs

**PLEAS** for Walsall Council to hand over more money so Remembrance Day Parades can go ahead this year are being resisted with bosses saying the authority's decision will not change.

Parades had been under threat last year after West Midlands Police said it would no longer be providing officers for traffic management duties.

However in December, Walsall Council's cabinet agreed to provide 30 per cent of traffic management costs, up to a cap of £1,000 per parade, for the years 2017, 2018 and 2019, with the contribution being reviewed in the financial year 2019/20.

Despite this, calls are now being made for the council to increase that provision to 50 per cent, with the average cost for organising the parades coming in at around £4,250, according to a petitioner who has collected more than 600 signatures backing their request in just over a week.

## Estimated

An e-petition, which was set up by Tam Miller, a member of Walsall Council's Remembrance Day Working Group currently has 658 backers.

Councillor Gary Perry, who is vice chairman of the Pelsall Royal British Legion and also a member of the working group, said estimated costs given to parade organisers for hiring staff to carry out traffic management duties didn't include 20 per cent VAT, leaving them with a mountain to climb.

He said: "The situation is simple that while we obviously appreciate the efforts the council have made, the estimates we were given and the ones we are getting now are different because the original estimates did not include VAT. I hope we can reach a conclusion



The remembrance parade which took place in Walsall town centre last year

on this because I have said many times in the past, this is the one issue where we should all be united on and work together to make sure these parades happen."

Council leader Sean Coughlan has said that he is 'disappointed' that the working group is seeking to reopen the funding debate following the decision made in December.

He said: "Members of the Working Party had the opportunity to call in or freeze the cabinet decision."

"They did not do so and therefore, I am disappointed to hear that the Remembrance Day Working Group met last week and is seeking to reopen a debate on the funding and arrangement of future parades in the borough."

"My cabinet agreed a solution in December. That was a difficult decision for two reasons - firstly, we have been placed in this position by the police changing their policy and leaving it to others to fill that gap and secondly, this council faces £86m of savings over four years."

"We did not have a budget for these parades but have prioritised that expenditure for the next three years so we can give some certainty to event organisers to plan and fundraise for their events."

The council leader pointed to work he is doing himself with the Willenhall Royal British Legion in terms of fundraising to offer an example up to other groups.

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# Gear up for racing and rally legends

## COMPETITION

**GET** revved up you motor fans, a fantastic line-up of rallying and racing legends is joining the 15th anniversary 'Super Show' celebrations of Race Retro.

The international historic motorsport show returns to Stoneleigh Park, Warwickshire, from Friday, February 24- Sunday, February 26. And 15 readers will have to chance to win a pair of tickets.

The 'Flying Finns' of rally drivers Ari Vatanen and Markku Alén will both be in action, behind the wheel on the Live Rally Stage, joining the 70-80 cars and drivers from Rallying with Group B, while inside the halls Le Mans legend Tom Kristensen will be on the Motor Sport Live Stage along with motorcycle champion 'Fast' Freddie Spencer. Vatanen appears on Saturday and Sunday, while Alén will be in the show on Friday afternoon before driving on Saturday. Kristensen also appears on Saturday as an inductee in the Motor Sport Hall of Fame. Spencer, nominated as an inductee for 2017, appears Saturday and Sunday.

The Motor Sport Hall of Fame will see an entire hall dedicated to inductees into this auspicious role of honour. Visitors will get the chance to see cars and bikes linked to Hall of Fame inductees from racing and rallying as well as enjoying live interviews with the stars on the Motor Sport Live Stage.

There will be a celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Cosworth DFV, curated by designer Mike Costin, with cars including Keke Rosberg's Williams FW08, a Cosworth 4-wd and a McLaren 23 on display.

There will also be a tribute to Jim Clark with the first appearance in over



Show is a must date for all the retro car fans

four decades of the Lotus 33 chassis R11 which is about to benefit from a sympathetic restoration by Classic Team Lotus, with Clive Chapman at the show to talk about the project.

Race Retro will also mark 40-years of Donington Park with a display from the Donington Grand Prix Collection as well as highlighting the teenagers competing in Historic Motorsport as an avenue to becoming a professional racing driver in 'Teenage Kicks'.

The halls will have more classic cars and historic motorsport vehicles than ever before covering all disciplines from Formula One to hill climbing, rally to GT cars, with fantastic displays by motorsport clubs from around the UK.

Silverstone Auctions return with two sales - its traditional Classics vehicle sale on Sunday along with a dedicated Competition Car sale on Saturday.

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Classic Tour, thanks to HERO, the Historic Endurance Rally Organisation.

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Tickets for Race Retro 2017 are now on sale with free parking and a free show guide for all visitors. For the latest updates, visit [www.raceretro.com](http://www.raceretro.com)

### HOW TO ENTER

To be in with a chance of winning a pair of tickets send your name, phone number and email address (the organisers will send tickets) to Retro Car Competition, Chronicle editorial 51-53 Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES. Closing date: Thursday February 9.

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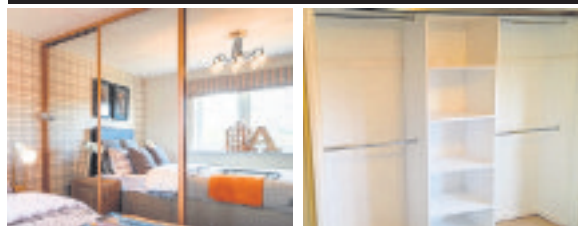
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[www.walsall.gov.uk/leisure](http://www.walsall.gov.uk/leisure)



# V special day to mark milestone



Visitors will get a chance to see the Valiant aircraft up close



A Vulcan bomber on display at RAF Cosford

**THE Royal Air Force Museum at Cosford celebrates the 10th anniversary of its award-winning National Cold War Exhibition next week, giving visitors close-up access to some of the aircraft on show.**

The celebration takes place on Tuesday, February 7 from 10am to 4pm at the museum.

The £12.5 million landmark building and exhibition was officially opened in 2007 by HRH The

RAF Cosford's Cold War exhibition celebrates its 10th birthday. JESSICA LABHART reports

Princess Royal and was attended by VIP guests including the Rt Hon Baroness Thatcher.

To mark the milestone, visitors are invited to join museum staff and volunteers for a special event that will see a number of Cold War aircraft opened for exclusive close up access, including the Vickers Valiant B1 and the Handley Page Victor K2.

Both aircraft are being opened to the public for the very first time

and the Cosford team hope aviation fans will seize the opportunity to step on board two of Britain's nuclear strike force aircraft, which played a vital role during the critical Cold War years.

The Valiant was the first of Bomber Command's V class aircraft and established Britain's airborne nuclear deterrent force before pioneering operational in-flight refuelling in the Royal Air Force. Not only was it the first V-Bomber to enter service, it was also the first to drop an operational British nuclear weapon over Christmas Island in 1957.

## Utilised

The Victor was designed and in service as a strategic nuclear bomber, some were converted to in-flight refuelling tankers and remained in service until 1993.

Victors were heavily utilised in the 1982 Falklands campaign and the 1991 Gulf War before retiring from service in 1993.

Both aircraft now reside at the RAF Museum Cosford, displayed alongside the Hawker Siddeley Vulcan B2 and dominate the upper level of the National Cold War Exhibition.

Other Cold War aircraft and vehicles being opened to the public for the anniversary event will include the General Dynamics F-111F-



The Princess Royal opens the Cold War exhibition on February 7, 2007

CF, Mikoyan-Gurevich MiG 21PF, Hawker Hunter F.4 (nose section), Avro York C1, McDonnell Douglas Phantom FG.1 (nose section) and the Short Brothers Belfast. In addition, visitors can take a look inside the Mikoyan-Gurevich MiG-15bis, the BMP-1 infantry fighting vehicle, Green Goddess auxiliary fire engine and the Tracked Rapier missile launcher.

RAF Museum assistant director Paul Pomfret said: "The National Cold War Exhibition transformed the Cosford site with its

award-winning architecture and catapulted the museum onto a global stage, doubling the number of visitors who pass through its doors each year.

"Since its opening in 2007, over 3.2 million visitors have passed through its doors and interest in the exhibition and the museum has remained consistent ever since."

"We look forward to welcoming visitors to share in the celebrations for this milestone."

For more information, visit [www.rafmuseum.org/cosford](http://www.rafmuseum.org/cosford)

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### 3 Day Breaks

Tour Name	Dates	Available pickups in your area	Price
Greenwich Tall Ships Regatta	Sat 15 to Mon 17 Apr	Halesowen, Kidderminster, Oswestry, Shrewsbury, Telford, Wellington (Shrops.), Wolverhampton	£159

### 5 Day Breaks

Tour Name	Dates	Available pickups in your area	Price
Blackpool, Tower Ballroom & the Settle to Carlisle Railway	Mon 10 to Fri 14 Apr	Dudley, Halesowen, Kidderminster, Stourport, Wolverhampton	£259
Brighton & Scenic Sussex	Mon 3 to Fri 7 Apr	Bridgnorth, Cannock, Donnington, Dudley, Halesowen, Kidderminster, Oswestry, Shrewsbury, Stourport, Telford, Wellington (Shrops.), Wolverhampton	£259
Cheshire Gardens & Cruising the Manchester Ship Canal	Sun 30 Apr to Thu 4 May	Bridgnorth, Dudley, Halesowen, Kidderminster, Ludlow, Shrewsbury, Stafford, Stone, Stourport, Telford, Walsall, Wellington (Shrops.), Wolverhampton	£319
Discover the Lovely English Lake District	Mon 8 to Fri 12 May	Dudley, Halesowen, Kidderminster, Shrewsbury, Stafford, Telford, Walsall, Wellington (Shrops.), Welshpool, Wolverhampton	£319
Eastbourne & the Bluebell Railway	Mon 17 to Fri 21 Apr Mon 26 to Fri 30 Jun	Cannock, Donnington, Oswestry, Shrewsbury, Telford, Wellington (Shrops.) Bridgnorth, Dudley, Halesowen, Kidderminster, Wolverhampton	£249 £279
Great Little Trains of North Wales	Mon 29 May to Fri 2 Jun	Dudley, Halesowen, Kidderminster, Ludlow, Walsall, Wolverhampton	£269
Great Yarmouth & the Norfolk Broads Paddle Steamer	Mon 12 to Fri 16 Jun Mon 26 to Fri 30 Jun	Bridgnorth, Dudley, Halesowen, Kidderminster, Wolverhampton Cannock, Donnington, Oswestry, Shrewsbury, Telford, Wellington (Shrops.)	£269
Hayling Island - Warner Entertainment Break	Mon 15 to Fri 19 May	Dudley, Halesowen, Kidderminster, Wolverhampton	£319
Historic Durham, Beamish & Captain Cook's Whitby	Sun 23 to Thu 27 Apr Sun 20 to Thu 24 Aug	Dudley, Halesowen, Kidderminster, Wolverhampton Donnington, Shrewsbury, Stafford, Telford, Wellington (Shrops.), Welshpool	£289 £299
Historic York & the Yorkshire Dales	Mon 8 to Fri 12 May Mon 22 to Fri 26 May	Donnington, Oswestry, Shrewsbury, Stafford, Telford, Wellington (Shrops.) Dudley, Halesowen, Kidderminster, Walsall, Wolverhampton	£279
Isle of Wight 'Royals & Rails'	Mon 29 May to Fri 2 Jun	Bridgnorth, Dudley, Halesowen, Kidderminster, Wolverhampton Cannock, Donnington, Shrewsbury, Telford, Wellington (Shrops.), Welshpool	£279
Liverpool, Cilla, the Beatles & Ferry 'cross the Mersey	Mon 15 to Fri 19 May Mon 19 to Fri 23 Jun	Donnington, Shrewsbury, Stafford, Telford, Wellington (Shrops.), Welshpool Bridgnorth, Dudley, Halesowen, Kidderminster, Wolverhampton	£289
Llandudno, Stunning Snowdonia & the Isle of Anglesey	Mon 15 to Fri 19 May	Dudley, Halesowen, Kidderminster, Stourport, Wolverhampton	£269
Morse's Oxford, Midsomer Murders Country & Capital Cruising	Thu 4 to Mon 8 May	Bridgnorth, Donnington, Dudley, Halesowen, Kidderminster, Oswestry, Shrewsbury, Stourport, Telford, Walsall, Wellington (Shrops.), Welshpool, Wolverhampton	£299
Newquay, Eden Project & the Cream of Cornwall	Mon 8 to Fri 12 May Mon 15 to Fri 19 May	Bridgnorth, Dudley, Halesowen, Kidderminster, Stourport, Walsall, Wolverhampton Cannock, Donnington, Oswestry, Shrewsbury, Telford, Wellington (Shrops.)	£289
Scarborough, Whitby & the North Yorkshire Moors Railway	Mon 10 to Fri 14 Apr Mon 19 to Fri 23 Jun	Dudley, Halesowen, Kidderminster, Wolverhampton Donnington, Oswestry, Shrewsbury, Stafford, Telford, Wellington (Shrops.)	from £249 from £279
Skegness & Lovely Lincolnshire	Sun 2 to Thu 6 Apr Sun 23 to Thu 27 Apr	Dudley, Halesowen, Kidderminster, Ludlow, Walsall, Wolverhampton Donnington, Shrewsbury, Stafford, Telford, Wellington (Shrops.), Welshpool	£259
South Wales Gardens & the Royal Mint Experience	Mon 24 to Fri 28 Apr Mon 1 to Fri 5 May	Dudley, Halesowen, Kidderminster, Stourport, Wolverhampton Cannock, Donnington, Oswestry, Shrewsbury, Telford, Wellington (Shrops.)	£329
Southend-on-Sea, Cambridge & Constable Country	Sun 9 to Thu 13 Apr	Halesowen, Kidderminster, Oswestry, Shrewsbury, Stafford, Stourport, Telford, Walsall, Wellington (Shrops.), Wolverhampton	£279
Torbay, Little Boats & Trains of the English Riviera	Mon 8 to Fri 12 May Mon 22 to Fri 26 May	Cannock, Donnington, Oswestry, Shrewsbury, Telford, Wellington (Shrops.) Dudley, Halesowen, Kidderminster, Stourport, Wolverhampton	£269 £279
Weymouth & the Jurassic Coast	Mon 22 to Fri 26 May Mon 5 to Fri 9 Jun	Cannock, Donnington, Oswestry, Shrewsbury, Telford, Wellington (Shrops.) Dudley, Halesowen, Kidderminster, Walsall, Wolverhampton	£289

### 7 Day Breaks

Tour Name	Dates	Available pickups in your area	Price
Nostalgic Little Trains of the Isle of Man	Sun 16 to Sat 22 Apr	Donnington, Shrewsbury, Stafford, Telford, Wellington (Shrops.), Welshpool	£499

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### Newquay, Eden Project & the Cream of Cornwall

5 Days from just **£289**

#### Your break includes

- ✓ Return coach travel
- ✓ 4 nights dinner, bed and breakfast at the Pentire Hotel, Newquay
- ✓ Entertainment some nights
- ✓ Excursions to **Penzance, St Ives & the Eden Project**

Optional excursion to Padstow £6<sup>99</sup>pp



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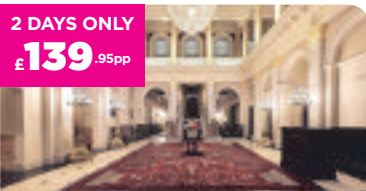




## UK Events

Return coach travel from Brownhills, Cannock, Dudley, Walsall, West Bromwich & Wolverhampton\*

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**4\* LONDON WEEKEND BREAK AT THE GROSVENOR HOTEL**

Selected Saturday departures, March - September 2017

**PRICE INCLUDES**

VIEW ONLINE AT  
[www.omega-holidays.com/LWP405](http://www.omega-holidays.com/LWP405)  
QUOTE CODE: LWP405

This is a terrific weekend deal which plants you right in the heart of London, close to Buckingham Palace and Westminster, with a luxury stay at the newly-refurbished 4 star Grosvenor Hotel, plus English breakfast, return coach travel and free time in the capital.

- ✓ Overnight stay at the 4 star Guoman Grosvenor Hotel, London with full English breakfast
- ✓ Free time in central London

Single room supplement £60pp. Subject to availability.

2 DAYS FROM  
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**SATURDAY NIGHT LONDON THEATRE**

Saturday departures until July 2017

**PRICE INCLUDES**

VIEW ONLINE AT  
[www.omega-holidays.com/PXK691](http://www.omega-holidays.com/PXK691)  
QUOTE CODE: PXK691

- ✓ Overnight stay at a 4 star hotel within 20 miles of central London with full English breakfast
- ✓ A ticket for a Saturday evening performance of a TOP West End Show from our fabulous selection
- ✓ Free time in London

Single room supplement £30pp. Subject to availability.

2 DAYS ONLY  
£149.95pp



**CLASSICAL SPECTACULAR AT THE ROYAL ALBERT HALL**

Departing Saturday 18 March 2017

**PRICE INCLUDES**

VIEW ONLINE AT  
[www.omega-holidays.com/YYU428](http://www.omega-holidays.com/YYU428)  
QUOTE CODE: YYU428

- ✓ Overnight stay at a 4 star hotel within 20 miles of central London with early dinner and full English breakfast
- ✓ A Choir ticket (face value of £25) for Classical Spectacular on Saturday 18 March at the Royal Albert Hall (upgrades available at a supplement)
- ✓ Free time in London

Single room supplement £30pp. Subject to availability.

2 DAYS ONLY  
£139.95pp



**FLORIMANIA AT HAMPTON COURT & WINDSOR**

Departing Saturday 25 March 2017

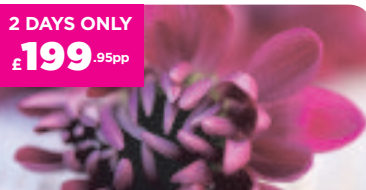
**PRICE INCLUDES**

VIEW ONLINE AT  
[www.omega-holidays.com/UDX541](http://www.omega-holidays.com/UDX541)  
QUOTE CODE: UDX541

- ✓ Overnight stay at a 4 star hotel within 20 miles of central London with 3-course dinner and full English breakfast
- ✓ Admission to Florimania and Hampton Court Palace and grounds

Single room supplement £30pp. Subject to availability.

2 DAYS ONLY  
£199.95pp



**CHELSEA FLOWER SHOW AND OXFORD**

Departing Friday 26 May 2017

**PRICE INCLUDES**

VIEW ONLINE AT  
[www.omega-holidays.com/LJJ383](http://www.omega-holidays.com/LJJ383)  
QUOTE CODE: LJJ383

- ✓ Overnight stay at a 3 or 4 star outer London/Reading area hotel with 3-course dinner and full English breakfast
- ✓ Admission to the Chelsea Flower Show, with coach transfer
- ✓ Free time in Oxford

Single room supplement £30pp. Subject to availability.

3 DAYS ONLY  
£169.95pp



**TALL SHIPS PARADE AT ROYAL GREENWICH**

Departing Saturday 15 April 2017

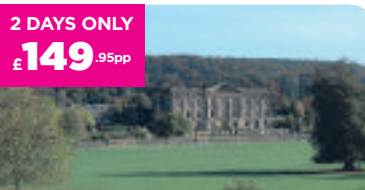
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[www.omega-holidays.com/AAM329](http://www.omega-holidays.com/AAM329)  
QUOTE CODE: AAM329

- ✓ 2 nights at a 3 or 4 star hotel within 20 miles of central London with 3-course dinner (on Saturday only) and full English breakfast
- ✓ Visit to Royal Greenwich for the Tall Ships Regatta
- ✓ Free time in London and Windsor

Single room supplement £60pp. Subject to availability.

2 DAYS ONLY  
£149.95pp



**CHATSWORTH FLOWER SHOW AND HARROGATE**

Departing Saturday 10 June 2017

**PRICE INCLUDES**

VIEW ONLINE AT  
[www.omega-holidays.com/FKU397](http://www.omega-holidays.com/FKU397)  
QUOTE CODE: FKU397

- ✓ Overnight stay at a 3 or 4 star Yorkshire area hotel with 3-course dinner and full English breakfast
- ✓ Admission to the RHS Chatsworth Flower Show
- ✓ Free time in Harrogate

Single room supplement £30pp. Subject to availability.

2 DAYS ONLY  
£199.95pp



**JEFF LYNNE'S ELO LIVE AT WEMBLEY STADIUM**

Departing Saturday 24 June 2017

**PRICE INCLUDES**

VIEW ONLINE AT  
[www.omega-holidays.com/YWM324](http://www.omega-holidays.com/YWM324)  
QUOTE CODE: YWM324

- ✓ Overnight stay at a 4 star hotel within 20 miles of central London with full English breakfast
- ✓ Ticket to see Jeff Lynne's Electric Light Orchestra at Wembley Stadium on Saturday evening
- ✓ Transfer between the hotel and the Stadium
- ✓ Free time in London

Single room supplement £30pp. Subject to availability.

For more information or to book, please call:

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### LONDON WEEKEND RAIL SPECIAL

Selected Saturday departures until August 2017

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VIEW ONLINE AT  
[www.omega-holidays.com/GQK033](http://www.omega-holidays.com/GQK033)  
QUOTE CODE: GQK033

- ✓ Overnight stay at a choice of 4 star central London hotels with full English breakfast
- ✓ Free time in London for shopping and sightseeing
- ✓ Return standard class rail travel to London

Single room supplement: £50pp. Subject to availability.

3 DAYS FROM  
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### LONDON THEATRE SHOWSTOPPER WEEKEND

Friday departures until August 2017

#### PRICE INCLUDES

VIEW ONLINE AT  
[www.omega-holidays.com/MVA834](http://www.omega-holidays.com/MVA834)  
QUOTE CODE: MVA834

- ✓ 2 nights at a choice of 4 star central London hotels with full English breakfast
- ✓ Category A Dress Circle or stalls ticket up to face value of £80 for a Friday evening performance from our fabulous selection of shows
- ✓ Free time in London for shopping and sightseeing
- ✓ Return standard class rail travel to London

Single room supplement £100pp. Subject to availability. \*Price may vary from: £239.95pp to £339.95pp dependent on choice of show, hotel and any applicable supplements.

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### LONDON SUMMER DAYS

Monday departures, 24 & 31 July, 7 & 14 August and 4 September 2017

#### PRICE INCLUDES

VIEW ONLINE AT  
[www.omega-holidays.com/XGL743](http://www.omega-holidays.com/XGL743)  
QUOTE CODE: XGL743

- ✓ 4 nights at the 4 star Thistle Euston or the 4 star Tower Guoman hotel with full English breakfast
- ✓ Excursion to Windsor
- ✓ Free time in London
- ✓ Return standard class rail travel to London

Optional excursion to Hampton Court Palace & Richmond (£19 extra)

Single room supplement £200pp. Subject to availability.

3 DAYS FROM  
£209.95pp



### MOTOWN THE MUSICAL

Selected Friday departures until August 2017

#### PRICE INCLUDES

VIEW ONLINE AT  
[www.omega-holidays.com/LPN159](http://www.omega-holidays.com/LPN159)  
QUOTE CODE: LPN159

- ✓ 2 nights at a choice of 4 star central London hotels with full English breakfast
- ✓ A Grand Circle ticket with a face value of £19.50 for a Friday evening performance of Motown the Musical at the Shaftesbury Theatre (upgraded tickets available from £20 - £60 per person)
- ✓ Free time in London for shopping and sightseeing
- ✓ Return standard class rail travel to London

Single room supplement £100pp. Subject to availability.

3 DAYS FROM  
£219.95pp



### LONDON MOTOR SHOW

Departing Friday 5 May 2017

#### PRICE INCLUDES

VIEW ONLINE AT  
[www.omega-holidays.com/HRN129](http://www.omega-holidays.com/HRN129)  
QUOTE CODE: HRN129

- ✓ 2 nights at a choice of 4 star central London hotels with full English breakfast
- ✓ All-day ticket (value £15) for the London Motor Show at Battersea Park on Saturday
- ✓ Return standard class rail travel to London

Single room supplement: £100pp. Subject to availability.

3 DAYS FROM  
£269.95pp



### HAMPTON COURT PALACE FLOWER SHOW

Departing Friday 7 July 2017

#### PRICE INCLUDES

VIEW ONLINE AT  
[www.omega-holidays.com/JDX364](http://www.omega-holidays.com/JDX364)  
QUOTE CODE: JDX364

- ✓ 2 nights at the 4 star Tower Guoman hotel with full English breakfast
- ✓ Admission and return coach transfer to RHS Hampton Court Palace Flower Show
- ✓ Free time in London
- ✓ Return standard class rail travel to London

Single room supplement £100pp. Subject to availability.

2 DAYS FROM  
£159.95pp



### BUCKINGHAM PALACE

Selected Saturday departures, August & September 2017

#### PRICE INCLUDES

VIEW ONLINE AT  
[www.omega-holidays.com/YTA765](http://www.omega-holidays.com/YTA765)  
QUOTE CODE: YTA765

- ✓ Overnight stay at a choice of 4 star central London hotels with full English breakfast
- ✓ Sunday morning admission to Buckingham Palace
- ✓ Free time in London
- ✓ Return standard class rail travel to London

Single room supplements £60pp. Subject to availability.

5 DAYS FROM  
£399.95pp



### HISTORIC PALACES

BUCKINGHAM PALACE, THE PALACE OF WESTMINSTER AND WINDSOR CASTLE

Selected Monday departures, July - September 2017

#### PRICE INCLUDES

VIEW ONLINE AT  
[www.omega-holidays.com/MJM436](http://www.omega-holidays.com/MJM436)  
QUOTE CODE: MJM436

- ✓ 4 nights at the 4 star Thistle Euston or the 4 star Tower Guoman hotel with full English breakfast
- ✓ Admission to Buckingham Palace and the Palace of Westminster, with coach transfer
- ✓ Admission to Windsor Castle, with coach transfer
- ✓ Free time in London
- ✓ Return standard class rail travel to London

Optional excursion to Hampton Court Palace & Richmond (£19 extra)

Single room supplements £200pp. Subject to availability.

For more information or to book, please call:

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**Monday - Thursday until March 2017**

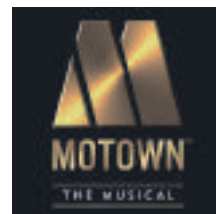
#### Price Includes...

**Quote Code: JDQ864**

- ✓ Overnight stay at the 3 star ibis Earls Court with full English breakfast
- ✓ Ticket to your chosen theatre show in the evening (face value between £44 - £72)

View product online at [www.omega-holidays.com/JDQ864](http://www.omega-holidays.com/JDQ864)

Single room supplements £50pp. Subject to availability.



**3 DAYS FROM  
£179.95pp**



#### GRAND NATIONAL

Friday 7 April 2017

#### PRICE INCLUDES

VIEW ONLINE AT  
[www.omega-holidays.com/WLG396](http://www.omega-holidays.com/WLG396)  
QUOTE CODE: WLG396

- ✓ 2 nights at the 3 star Mercure Wigan Oak Hotel, Wigan with 3 course evening meal and full English breakfast
- ✓ Steeplechase Enclosure ticket for the race programme at Aintree on Grand National Day (upgrade available)
- ✓ Return coach transfer between the hotel and the racecourse

Single room supplements £60pp. Subject to availability.

**2 DAYS FROM  
£199.95pp**



#### GUNS N'ROSES LIVE AT LONDON STADIUM

Saturday 17 June 2017

#### PRICE INCLUDES

VIEW ONLINE AT  
[www.omega-holidays.com/FTT794](http://www.omega-holidays.com/FTT794)  
QUOTE CODE: FTT794

- ✓ Overnight stay at a choice of 4 star central London hotels with full English breakfast
- ✓ Standing / unreserved seating ticket for Guns N' Roses at the London Stadium, Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park

Single room supplement £50pp. Subject to availability.

**2 DAYS FROM  
£159.95pp**



#### JEFF LYNNE'S ELO LIVE AT WEMBLEY STADIUM

Saturday 24 June 2017

#### PRICE INCLUDES

VIEW ONLINE AT  
[www.omega-holidays.com/EMQ838](http://www.omega-holidays.com/EMQ838)  
QUOTE CODE: EMQ838

- ✓ Overnight stay at a choice of 4 star central London hotels with full English breakfast
- ✓ Ticket to see Jeff Lynne's Electric Light Orchestra at Wembley Stadium on Saturday evening

Single room supplements £60pp. Subject to availability.

Stay an  
extra night  
(Friday or  
Sunday)  
for Just  
**£69.95pp**

**2 DAYS FROM  
£179.95pp**



#### THE STONE ROSES AT WEMBLEY STADIUM

Saturday 17 June 2017

#### PRICE INCLUDES

VIEW ONLINE AT  
[www.omega-holidays.com/FWK114](http://www.omega-holidays.com/FWK114)  
QUOTE CODE: FWK114

- ✓ Overnight stay at a choice of 4 star central London hotels with full English breakfast
- ✓ General admission ticket to The Stone Roses Live at Wembley Stadium on Saturday

Single room supplements £50pp. Subject to availability.

For more information or to book, please call:

**01902 902165**

OPENING TIMES: MON-FRI 8.30-19.00 SAT 8.30-16.00 SUN 10.00-16.00



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Departing Sunday 9 July 2017

**PRICE INCLUDES**

- ✓ Return flight on an exclusive Omega charter from Birmingham airport to Friedrichshafen
- ✓ 7 nights half board at a choice of 4 star St Anton hotels
- ✓ Excursions to Liechtenstein & Appenzell, and Lindau & Lake Constance (Bodensee)
- ✓ St Anton Active Summer Card with one day's free use of cable cars
- ✓ Airport taxes and return transfer to your hotel

VIEW ONLINE AT  
[www.omega-holidays.com/MAT763](http://www.omega-holidays.com/MAT763)  
**QUOTE CODE: MAT763**

**8 DAYS**  
**£899<sup>pp</sup>**

**4 STAR SUMMER IN THE  
AUSTRIAN MOUNTAINS (LECH)**

Departing Sunday 9 July 2017

**PRICE INCLUDES**

- ✓ Return flight on an exclusive Omega charter from Birmingham airport to Friedrichshafen
- ✓ 7 nights at the 4 star Hotel St Antonys Alpin, Lech with breakfast
- ✓ Tea, coffee and afternoon cake
- ✓ Airport taxes and return transfer to your hotel

VIEW ONLINE AT  
[www.omega-holidays.com/HPT308](http://www.omega-holidays.com/HPT308)  
**QUOTE CODE: HPT308**

**8 DAYS**  
**£1299<sup>pp</sup>**

**SWITZERLAND  
AND THE GLACIER EXPRESS**

Departing Sunday 9 July 2017

**PRICE INCLUDES**

- ✓ Return flight on an exclusive Omega charter from Birmingham airport to Friedrichshafen
- ✓ 7 nights half board at the 3 star Hotel Sport, Klosters (4 star upgrade available at a supplement)
- ✓ Excursion on the Glacier Express from Tiefencastel to Andermatt, with a visit to Lucerne and a boat cruise on the lake
- ✓ Excursion on the Bernina Express from Pontresina to Poschiavo, with a visit to St Moritz
- ✓ A complimentary Davos Klosters Card giving resort discounts and free use of Klosters cable cars and public transport
- ✓ Airport taxes and return transfer to your hotel

VIEW ONLINE AT  
[www.omega-holidays.com/ULG493](http://www.omega-holidays.com/ULG493)  
**QUOTE CODE: ULG493**

**8 DAYS**  
**£1099<sup>pp</sup>**

**4 STAR DUBROVNIK  
MONTENEGRO AND ELAPHITI ISLANDS**

Departing Sunday 2 July 2017

**PRICE INCLUDES**

- ✓ Return flight on an exclusive Omega charter from Birmingham airport to Dubrovnik
- ✓ 7 nights half board at the 4 star Grand Hotel Park & Villas Park (4 star Hotel Lapad available at a supplement)
- ✓ Excursion to Montenegro
- ✓ Galleon cruise to the Elaphiti Islands with lunch on board ship
- ✓ Airport taxes and return transfer to your hotel

VIEW ONLINE AT  
[www.omega-holidays.com/EWY929](http://www.omega-holidays.com/EWY929)  
**QUOTE CODE: EWY929**

**8 DAYS**  
**£999<sup>pp</sup>**

**DUBROVNIK RIVIERA**

Departing Sunday 2 July 2017

**PRICE INCLUDES**

- ✓ Return flight on an exclusive Omega charter from Birmingham airport to Dubrovnik
- ✓ 7 nights half board at the 3 star Hotel Cavtat, Cavtat (3 star Hotel Astarea, Milni available at a supplement)
- ✓ Airport taxes and return transfer to your hotel

VIEW ONLINE AT  
[www.omega-holidays.com/DEL853](http://www.omega-holidays.com/DEL853)  
**QUOTE CODE: DEL853**

Optional excursions (available at a supplement) Montenegro and Elaphiti Island Cruise

**9 DAYS FROM**  
**£879<sup>pp</sup>**

**SORRENTO SUMMER SPECIAL**

Departing Friday 23 June 2017

**PRICE INCLUDES**

- ✓ Return flight from Birmingham airport to Naples\*
- ✓ 8 nights at the 3 star Hotel Florida, Sorrento with hot buffet breakfast
- ✓ Airport taxes and return transfer to your hotel

Optional excursions (available at a supplement) Isle of Capri, Pompeii and Amalfi Drive (Positano, Amalfi and Ravello)

\*We have included the current flight price within the below package price as of 23 January 2017. Should the cost of flights change the package price may vary. The final price will be confirmed to you at time of booking.

For more information or to book, please call:

**01902 902165**

OPENING TIMES: MON-FRI 8.30-19.00 SAT 8.30-16.00 SUN 10.00-16.00



Organised by Omega Holidays plc, ABTA V4782. ATOL Protected 6081.

Single supplement applies. Subject to availability.

\*Omega Holidays reserve the right to remove this offer at any time.

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FREE  
BROCHURE TODAY!**

*Omega*



## Fly from Birmingham airport



Quote Code: **WUA083**

### Price Includes...

- ✓ Return flight from Birmingham airport to Naples\*
- ✓ 7 nights at the 3 star Hotel Florida, Sorrento with hot buffet breakfast
- ✓ Airport taxes and return transfer to your hotel

Optional excursions available at a supplement:  
Isle of Capri, Pompeii and Amalfi Drive (Positano, Amalfi and Ravello)

\*When you book before 15 February 2017. Omega Holidays reserves the right to remove this offer at any time.

View product online at [www.omega-holidays.com/WUA083](http://www.omega-holidays.com/WUA083)

INCLUDES  
**£100pp\***  
EARLY BOOKING  
DISCOUNT

## Sorrento Summer Special

Selected Friday departures,  
May - October 2017

8 DAYS, BY AIR  
From **£669** pp

The advertised price is correct as of 23 January 2017 and is based upon departure from Birmingham airport on 12 May 2017.

# European HOLIDAYS



## 4 Star Treasures of the Amalfi Coast

Departing Friday 5 May 2017

### Price Includes...

- ✓ Return flight from Birmingham airport to Naples\*
- ✓ 7 nights half board at the 4 star Grand Hotel Excelsior, Amalfi
- ✓ Full-day excursion to Herculaneum & Sorrento, with admission to Herculaneum
- ✓ Full-day excursion to the ancient Greek site of Paestum (with admission), plus a visit to a buffalo mozzarella farm
- ✓ Boat cruise along the Amalfi coastline, with a guided walking tour of Amalfi
- ✓ Airport taxes and return transfer to your hotel

Quote Code: **HCT736**

8 DAYS, BY AIR

From **£909** pp

View product online at [www.omega-holidays.com/HCT736](http://www.omega-holidays.com/HCT736)

The advertised price is correct as of 23 January 2017 and is based upon departure from Birmingham airport on 5 May 2017.

## Lake Maggiore and Como Special

Departing Friday 7 April and  
Sunday 30 April & 8 October 2017

### Price Includes...

- ✓ Return flight from Birmingham airport to Milan\*
- ✓ 7 nights half board at the 3 star Hotel Flora, Stresa (upgrade to the 4 star Hotel Astoria at a supplement)
- ✓ Borromean Islands cruise with visits to Isola Bella and Isola Pescatori
- ✓ Three lakes tour of Lake Maggiore, Lake Lugano and Lake Como
- ✓ Centovalli narrow-gauge railway excursion to Locarno, Switzerland
- ✓ Airport taxes and return transfer to your hotel
- ✓ Services of an English-speaking representative

Quote Code: **HWC735**

View product online at [www.omega-holidays.com/HWC735](http://www.omega-holidays.com/HWC735)



8 DAYS, BY AIR  
From **£789** pp

The advertised price is correct as of 23 January 2017 and is based upon departure from Birmingham airport on 30 April 2017.



For more information or  
to book, please call:

**01902 902165**

Organised by Omega Holidays plc. ABTA V4782. ATOL Protected 6081. Single supplement applies. Subject to availability. \*We have included the current flight price within the package price. Should the cost of flights change the package price may vary. The final price will be confirmed to you at time of booking.

OPENING TIMES: MON-FRI 8.30-19.00 SAT 8.30-16.00 SUN 10.00-16.00

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31/03/17.



**99p Bar\*\***

For Arrivals in:

February, March,

November & upto 20th Dec\*

\*\*Conditions apply.

To Book:  
Quote '99p Bar'

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With **FREE NIGHTS\*** or **FREE HALF-BOARD\*** on many dates

Flying direct from Birmingham or Manchester

3 nts from £275 | 4 nts from £299 | 5 nts from £329 | 6 nts from £359 | 7 nts from £385

Discover Jersey from the award winning beaches and unspoiled landscape to the fascinating attractions and year round calendar of festivals and events.

### Price Includes

- ✓ Return flights from Birmingham or Manchester to Jersey
- ✓ Accommodation at the 3\* Mayfair Hotel, St Helier, Jersey
- ✓ Full English Breakfast
- ✓ Health Club and indoor swimming pool
- ✓ In-house entertainment most evenings
- ✓ Return coach transfers from Jersey airport
- ✓ One item of checked-in baggage per person
- ✓ Check-in and airline booking fees
- ✓ ATOL protected

Depart on or between	Flights from BIRMINGHAM					Flights from MANCHESTER				
	3 nts	4 nts	5 nts	6 nts	7 nts	3 nts	4 nts	5 nts	6 nts	7 nts
01 Jan - 31 Mar	£279	£309	£339	£365	£395	£275	£299	£329	£359	£385
01 Apr - 28 Apr	£319	£359	£399	£445	£485	£309	£349	£395	£435	£475
29 Apr - 26 May	£335	£385	£429	£475	£525	£325	£375	£419	£469	£515
27 May - 04 Aug	£369	£429	£485	£545	£605	£359	£419	£479	£535	£595
05 Aug - 18 Aug	£389	£455	£515	£579	£645	£379	£445	£505	£569	£635
19 Aug - 29 Sept	£359	£415	£469	£525	£579	£349	£405	£459	£515	£569
30 Sept - 31 Oct	£319	£359	£399	£445	£485	£309	£349	£395	£435	£475
01 Nov - 23 Dec	£279	£309	£339	£365	£395	£275	£299	£329	£359	£385

Flight details are subject to airline schedules. Please contact reservations for specific departures.

- ✓ Superb location - in St Helier - close to town centre shops, bars & restaurants
- ✓ Short stroll to beach
- ✓ Health club
- ✓ Indoor swimming pool
- ✓ Regular live entertainment
- ✓ Relaxed lounge bar
- ✓ All day coffee shop
- ✓ Lift access to rooms
- ✓ Sun terrace
- ✓ Excursions available
- ✓ In-house holiday

Call: **01534 759 529**

QUOTE  
WES

Visit: [www.modernhotels.com/WES](http://www.modernhotels.com/WES)

\*Price is per person on two people sharing a room. Free nights and free half board are offered on selected dates between April - October and cannot be combined. Both offers are subject to terms & conditions, selected dates and minimum nights stay. Half Board offer must be booked before 31/03/17. Operated by Modern Travel Centre. Fully protected. ABTA V3101, ATOL 0752







## Walking Holidays Collection

**Flying direct from Birmingham**  
**Selected dates Feb 2017 to Mar 2018**

Our collection is designed to give you as much flexibility as possible - walk a lot, walk a little - the choice is yours. Either way on a Preferred Travel Services Walking Holiday you get the best of all worlds - recharge the batteries on a holiday, discover so much about the local culture, flora and fauna with an expert guide, enjoy the scenery of Europe's most picturesque countryside and beauty spots, and keep fit at the same time! All this in the company of like-minded travellers from all over the UK.

### Price includes

- Return direct flights from Birmingham
- 7 nights hotel accommodation - mostly half board
- 3 fully guided walks
- Options to extend by 7 nights on many holidays
- Services of a local representative



### Carcassonne, Cathar Country & Catalonia

**Flying direct from Birmingham**  
**Apr 19, 23, May 11, Jun 8, Sep 7, 21, Oct 5 & 12 2017**

Cathar country in Languedoc-Roussillon is a land of legend, mystery and stunning scenery. In Carcassonne you will find the most complete medieval walled city in Europe. As well as getting to know this fascinating part of France you will also spend a couple of days on the Spanish coast with a chance to visit the Roman town of Tarragona.

### Price includes

- Direct flights from Birmingham
- 7 nights HB hotel accommodation (3 on the Spanish coast & 4 in Amelie-les-Bains in France)
- Full day excursion to Carcassonne and Rennes-le-Chateau
- Free time in Figueres and Barcelona
- Services of a tour representative



### Seville, Mijas & Ronda

**Flying direct from Birmingham**  
**Departs Mar 18, May 8, 18, Jun 15, Sep 21, 30 2017 & Mar 17 2018**

This superb value holiday gives you the chance to relax in Southern Spain in the pretty white-painted village of Mijas Pueblo and enjoy some of the wonders of Andalusia. Five nights are spent in Mijas, and two in the magical city of Seville. There are included visits to Ronda and Puerto Banus and the chance to visit Gibraltar.

### Price includes

- Direct flights from Birmingham
- 7 nights accommodation (5 nights HB in Mijas, 2 nights B&B in Seville)
- Visits to Ronda and Puerto Banus
- Optional full day excursion to Gibraltar (at extra cost)
- Services of a tour representative



### Andalusia's Eastern Coast - Granada & Almeria

**from Birmingham**

**Selected dates Feb 2017 to Mar 2018**

On this holiday, not only will you visit Spain's greatest palace, the Alhambra in Granada, but also the Moorish fortress city of Almeria. Your base is the coastal city of Almunecar. The wonderful sub-tropical climate will help you enjoy the city's rich artistic and cultural heritage. In and around Almunecar the sierras plunge spectacularly into the sea and you will find no less than 25 beaches and coves within its boundary.

### Montserrat, Roman Tarragona & Gaudi's Reus

**from Birmingham**

**Departs Apr 2, May 17 & Oct 4 2017**

A week in a four-star hotel on the Catalan coast, with three varied and interesting excursions. Catalonia has an incredibly rich variety of landscapes. As well as sandy beaches, such as the wide, sandy one in front of your hotel, there are mountains, vineyards, rivers and picturesque villages all waiting to be discovered.



### Isla Canela, Rio Tinto & the Guadiana River

**from Birmingham**

**Departs May 4, 11, 18, Sep 7, 14 & 28 2017**

This holiday has the perfect balance of relaxation beside the dunes along Spain's Atlantic coast and on the banks of the Guadiana river and scenic sightseeing jam-packed with historical and cultural interest. You will visit the beautiful coastline of the Donana Natural Park, enjoy the Columbus sites and the scenery of the British Rio Tinto mines and have a day on a boat sailing up the River Guadiana.

### France, Spain, Andorra & the Pyrenees

**from Birmingham**

**Departs May 4, Jun 15, Sep 14 & 28 2017**

Three countries in eight days with a visit to the magnificent monastery at Montserrat and a never-to-be forgotten journey through the high Pyrenees on the Little Yellow Train. The journey through the Tet Valley will take your breath away! As well as two nights on the coast, four nights are spent in the mountain principality of Andorra and one night in the magical city of Barcelona.



### Bordighera - the Italian Riviera & Monte Carlo

**from Birmingham**

**Departs May 8, Jun 5, Sep 11, 18, 25 & Oct 2 2017**

The sun-seeking British of the 19th century left their mark all along the Riviera but perhaps nowhere more so than in the Italian town of Bordighera - famous for its perfect climate, seafront promenade, and palm trees. Just a few miles along the coast we find two more popular British haunts - Monte Carlo and Nice.

### The Landscapes of the Ancient Isle of Crete

**from Birmingham**

**Departs May 9, 16, Sep 12 & 26 2017**

Crete has citrus groves, vines, sandy beaches, spectacular mountains and picturesque fishing harbours, all carrying tales of a fascinating history and offering, just as importantly, warm hospitality. This two-centre holiday will show you a wide variety of scenery and visits, and all within very reasonable travel distances.



**To book or for more info, please call:**

**0116 279 3929** and quote WEXP.

Further details are available at [www.preferredts.com/wexp](http://www.preferredts.com/wexp)

Operated by Preferred Travel Services, ABTA W3692, ATOL Protected 5537. Prices are per person based on two sharing and are subject to availability. Single supplements may apply.



# fast the ticket



**Red good!**

See Page 31



## Bye Sabbath

One last hoorah for Ozzy  
and the boys – Page 31



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5 COURSE MEAL  
**£29.95**  
*per couple*

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BOOKINGS



# Valentine's Day Menu



## Da Vinci's Italiano Ristorante

### ANTIPASTI - STARTERS

(Choice of any 1)  
Soup of the Day  
Gamberetti Salad  
Fish Extravaganza  
Anti Pasti Platter  
Fungi Agrodolce  
Battata Innamonato

### PIATTI - MAINS

(Choice of any 1)  
Pollo Champagne  
Pollo Milanese  
Halibut  
Duck Ala Orange  
Bistecca Fillet Bearnaise  
King Prawn Thermadora

### DOLCI - DESSERTS

(Choice of any 1)  
Tiramisu  
Lemon Mousse  
Fruits of the Torte

**£18.95  
PER PERSON**

**ADVANCE BOOKING  
HIGHLY RECOMMENDED**

**1-3 Anchor Parade,  
Anchor Road, Aldridge,  
Walsall WS9 8QD**

**Tel: 01922 457128**

## Donny Osmond



**Tonight, 8pm**  
**Genting Arena, Birmingham**  
The former 70s teen idol is celebrating 50 years in showbusiness and last year the American singer released an incredible 60th album, *The Soundtrack Of My Life*.  
See [www.gentingarena.co.uk](http://www.gentingarena.co.uk)

## Wonderland



**Until February 11**  
**New Alex Theatre, Birmingham**  
Corrie star Wendy Peters (pictured) will play the Queen of Hearts, alongside West End star Kerry Ellis as Alice. See [www.atgtickets.com/shows/wonderland/new-alexandra-theatre-birmingham](http://www.atgtickets.com/shows/wonderland/new-alexandra-theatre-birmingham)

## Karnataka



**Sunday, 8.30pm**  
**Robin 2, Bilston**  
Welsh progressive rock band fronted by Hayley Griffiths and featuring original member Ian Jones will perform their albums *The Gathering Light* and *Secrets Of Angels* in full.  
See [www.therobin.co.uk](http://www.therobin.co.uk)

## Macka B



**Monday, 8pm**  
**Robin 2, Bilston**  
Wolverhampton's own reggae star returns to the venue where it all began for him (when it was the Rising Star) to celebrate Bob Marley's birthday the only way he knows how – music.  
See [www.therobin.co.uk](http://www.therobin.co.uk)

**National contest**  
**TeenStar 2017 auditions**  
Tomorrow,  
NEC, Birmingham, B40 1NT.  
Call 0121 780 4141

## ROCK & METAL

**Grouper**  
Tonight - tomorrow,  
The Jam House,  
Birmingham,  
B3 1QU.  
Call 0121 200 3030

**Oasis v The Stone Roses**  
Tonight, £8  
The River Rooms, Stourbridge,  
DY8 1JN.  
Call 01384 397 177  
or 07986 567 661

**The Deep Purple Family Tree**  
Tonight, £12.50 - £14.50  
The Robin 2, Bilston, WV14.  
Call 01902 401211

**Kings Ov Leon + support**  
Tonight, £6 - £7  
The RoadHouse Birmingham,  
Kings Norton, B30 3DZ.  
Call 0121 246 2273

**Special Kinda Madness**  
Tomorrow, £8  
The RoadHouse Birmingham,  
Kings Norton, B30 3DZ.  
Call 0121 246 2273

**G2 – Definitive Genesis**  
Tomorrow, £14 - £16  
The Robin 2, Bilston, WV14.  
Call 01902 401211

**Black Sabbath**  
Tomorrow,  
Genting Arena, Birmingham,  
B40 1NT.  
Call 0121 780 4141

**John Otway & The Big Band**  
Tomorrow, £15  
Artrix, Bromsgrove, B60 1PQ.  
Call 01527 871580

**Voodoo Vegas Live**  
Tomorrow - Sun,  
Eleven, Stoke-on-Trent, ST6 5PD.  
Call 07845 957271

**Karnataka**  
Sun, £14 - £15  
The Robin 2, Bilston, WV14.  
Call 01902 401211

**T.Rextasy**  
Sun, £20.50  
Artrix, Bromsgrove, B60 1PQ.  
Call 01527 871580

**Classic Rock Show**  
Sun, £24.50 - £34.50  
Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury, SY3 8FT.  
Call 01743 281281

**Itchy Feet Birmingham**  
Tue,  
The Jam House, Birmingham,  
B3 1QU.  
Call 0121 200 3030

**The Brew – Shake**  
**The Tree UK Tour**  
Wed,  
The Slade Rooms,  
Wolverhampton,  
WV1 1HP.  
Call 01902 552122

## CLASSICAL

**Mark Bebbington (piano)**  
Tonight,  
Bromsgrove Concerts,  
B61 8LG.  
Call 01527 836147

**Montparnasse**  
Tomorrow,  
MAC,  
Cannon Hill Park,  
Birmingham,  
B12 9QH.  
Call 0121 446 3232

**Gospel central**  
Wed,  
The Jam House,  
Birmingham,  
B3 1QU.  
Call 0121 200 3030

**Stourport Choral Society**  
Wed,  
Areley Kings Village Hall,  
Areley Common,  
Stourport-on-Severn,  
DY13 0NB.  
Call 07939 318973

## POP

**ABBA Mania**  
Tonight,  
New Alexandra Theatre,  
Birmingham,  
B5 4DS.  
Call 0844 871 3011

**Donny Osmond**  
Tonight,  
Genting Arena,  
B40 1NT.  
Call 0121 780 4141

**ABBA – Swede Dreamz**  
Tomorrow, £8  
The River Rooms, Stourbridge,  
DY8 1JN.  
Call 01384 397 177  
or 07986 577 661

**Sunday Classics**  
Sun,  
Spotted Dog, Digbeth,  
Birmingham, B12 0NH.  
Call 0121 772 3822

**You Win Again – The Story of the Bee Gees**  
Wed,  
Regent Theatre, Stoke-on-Trent,  
ST1 1AP.  
Call 0844 871 7649

**Sound Collective Presents:**  
**Union J + The Scheme**  
**+ Ian Erix + Taken**  
Thu, £20  
The Sugarmill, Stoke-on-Trent,  
ST1 1DR.  
Call 01782 214991

## JAZZ, SOUL, BLUES, MOTOWN & REGGAE

**Whitney**  
Tonight, £23  
Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury, SY3 8FT.  
Call 01743 281281

**Birmingham Salsa Party**  
Tonight - tomorrow,  
The Lion Club, Birmingham,  
B24 9AA.  
Call 07961 514074

**Jacqui Dankworth and Charlie Wood**  
Tomorrow,  
Festival Drayton Centre,  
Market Drayton, TF9 3AX.  
Call 01630 654444

**Soul Party Night with Sarah Collins and Keep The Faith**  
Tomorrow, £12  
Oakengates Theatre, Telford,  
TF2 6EP.  
Call 01952 382382

**Jazz Tuesdays**  
Tue,  
Spotted Dog, Digbeth,  
Birmingham, B12 0NH.  
Call 0121 772 3822

**Kenny Thomas**  
Thu, £40 - £50  
The Jam House, Birmingham,  
B3 1QU.  
Call 0121 200 3030

## FOLK, COUNTRY & ACOUSTIC

**Traditional Irish Music**  
Mon,  
Spotted Dog, Digbeth,  
Birmingham, B12 0NH.  
Call 0121 772 3822

**Nathan Carter**  
Tomorrow,  
New Alexandra Theatre,  
Birmingham, B5 4DS.  
Call 0844 871 3011

**George Monbiot & Ewan McLennan: The Age Of Loneliness**  
Wed,  
MAC, Cannon Hill Park,  
Birmingham, B12 9QH.  
Call 0121 446 3232

**Swing From The Guit – Poetry Slam**  
Thu, £3  
The RoadHouse Birmingham,  
Kings Norton, B30 3DZ.  
Call 0121 246 2273

## COMEDY

**Sally-Anne Hayward, Freddie Farrell, Topping and Butch**  
Tonight - Sun, £15  
Jongleurs Comedy Club,  
Birmingham,  
B1 2HG.  
Call 08700 111 960

**George Egg: Anarchist Cook**  
Tomorrow, £10 - £12  
Artrix, Bromsgrove, B60 1PQ.  
Call 01527 871580

**Shazia Mirza: The Kardashians Made Me Do It**  
Tomorrow, £12 - £14  
Theatre on the Steps, Bridgnorth,  
WV16 4BD.  
Call 01746 766477

**The Tommy Cooper Show**  
Tomorrow, £14  
Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury, SY3 8FT.  
Call 01743 281281

## THEATRE

**Evita**  
Tonight - tomorrow,  
Regent Theatre, Stoke-on-Trent,  
ST1 1AP.  
Call 0844 871 7649

**What's In A Name?**  
Tonight - Thu  
Birmingham Repertory Theatre,  
Library of Birmingham, B1 2EP.  
Call 0121 236 4455

**Dial M for Murder**  
Tonight - Thu  
Hall Green Little Theatre,  
Birmingham, B27 7RY.  
Call 0121 707 1874

**The Russian State Ballet Of Siberia – Coppelia**  
Tue,  
Wolverhampton Grand Theatre,  
WV1 1DE.  
Call 01902 42 92 12

**Beyond The Barricade**  
Tomorrow, £19.50 - £21.50  
Theatre Severn, Shrewsbury,  
SY3 8FT.  
Call 01743 281281

**Recorded at the Bolshoi Theatre, Moscow Bolshoi: Swan Lake**  
Sun, £10 - £16  
Number 8 Community Arts Centre, Pershore, WR10 1BG.  
Call 01386 555028

**St Petersburg Ballet Theatre presents Swan Lake**  
Sun - Mon,  
Regent Theatre, Stoke-on-Trent,  
ST1 1AP.  
Call 0844 871 7649

**The Russian State Ballet Of Siberia – Swan lake**  
Mon,  
Wolverhampton Grand Theatre,  
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**Wonderland**  
Mon - Thu,  
New Alexandra Theatre,  
Birmingham, B5 4DS.  
Call 0844 871 3011

**The Red Shoes**  
Tue - Thu,  
Birmingham Hippodrome, B5 4TB.  
Call 0844 338 5000

## ARTS & CULTURE

**Stitch Social**  
Today,  
Creative Coffee Hub, Birmingham, B29 6HJ.  
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**Uncial Calligraphy**  
Tomorrow,  
Winterbourne House and Garden, Birmingham, B15 2RT.  
Call 0121 414 3003

**The 4 Elements photography exhibition**  
Tomorrow - Wed,  
B1, Birmingham, B1 3RB.  
See [www.thephotographicangle.co.uk](http://www.thephotographicangle.co.uk)

**Nobuko Imai Interactive Workshop**  
Sun,  
Birmingham Conservatoire, Birmingham City University, B3 3HG.  
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**Cinematic Time Machine: 42nd Street**  
Sun,  
The Electric Cinema, Birmingham, B5 4DY.  
Call 0121 643 7879

**Somewhere Never Travelled – Annette Pugh Solo Exhibition**  
Mon - Thu,  
Reuben Colley Fine Art, Birmingham, B3 2BB.  
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**Number 8 Readers' Group**  
Tue,  
Number 8 Community Arts Centre, Pershore, WR10 1BG.  
Call 01386 555028

**Tales from the Museum Basement with Garston Phillips**  
Tue,  
Worcester City Art Gallery, WR1 1DT.  
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**Solihull Photographic Society – AV Competition**  
Tue,  
Solihull Women's Institute, B91 3DQ.  
Call 07815 165438

**Draw the Gardens – a botanical quest**  
Wed,  
Castle Bromwich Hall Gardens, Birmingham, B36 9BT.  
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## MISC. EVENTS

**Superslam Wrestling**  
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# End for Sabbath but not for Ozzy

IT STARTED nearly five decades ago with a crack of thunder, a distant bell ringing and then a monstrous riff that shook the earth.

In that moment Heavy Metal was born, created by a young band from Birmingham.

And now it's come full circle, drawing to an end with the final eight shows ever by Black Sabbath. Ozzy Osbourne, Tony Iommi and Geezer Butler are returning home to close the final chapter in the final volume of the incredible Black Sabbath story.

Sabbath's farewell tour, The End, is currently wowing fans all over Europe, surpassing all previous tours with their most mesmerising production ever.

## Arena

It will culminate in two nights in their home town at the Genting Arena, Birmingham, with gigs last night (Thursday) and the big finale on Saturday.

And when the tour concludes, it will truly be The End – of one of the most legendary bands in rock 'n' roll history.

Singer Ozzy is aware of the band's mortality. Following a short period that took away Lemmy, David Bowie, Prince and others, he's aware that all things must end.

"Lemmy, man," he says. "That broke my heart. If someone was to say to me, 'what's your depiction of the heavy metal rock star?', I'd say Lemmy Kilmister."

Ozzy has had more than his fair share of brushes with the Grim Reaper. He's been down but not out. "Oh, f\*\*\*ing hell have I. Just ask



Playing Brum together for the last time, Geezer Butler, Ozzy Osbourne, Tony Iommi my family. I've nearly died loads. I've had several stomach pumps, my heart stopped twice when I broke my neck on a quad bike. Every time I got stoned and drunk, I didn't get tipsy I got mashed.

"I haven't drunk for three years, I haven't smoked for 12 years, I don't do drugs any time. It's cool."

The band no longer features founding drummer Bill Ward, who left the fold in 2012 after a contract dispute. Ozzy, Tony and Geezer thundered on, releasing 13 in 2013, and embarking on a world tour.

They decided not to do a final album because they didn't want it to fall short of the number 1 they achieved with 13.

But despite this being the band's final tour, Ozzy won't be retiring. "I'm not going to stop entirely," he says. "I'm not going to sit with my slippers on. We're just going to go in different directions."

"Black Sabbath, it's been up and down. And it's good that we've come back together at the end, more or less, to finish on a high note. It's a good way to do it."

# Spectacular Red Shoes

ACCLAIMED choreographer Matthew Bourne brings his New Adventures dance company to Birmingham Hippodrome from Tuesday to Saturday as part of his world premiere tour of The Red Shoes.

Bourne's take on one of the most famous movies made about ballet has been so eagerly anticipated that his is likely to sell out its run in Brum and has already been booked to return between July 19 and 22.

And that's no surprise given the way Bourne has invigorated the ballet scene with such productions as his radical male-orientated revamp of Swan Lake, the passionate Car Man, spectacular Edward Scissorhands and romantic vampire-style Sleeping Beauty.

The role of Victoria Page, the girl who dreams of being a great dancer, immortalised on screen by Moira Shearer, has been created by New Adventures star Ashley Shaw (pictured left), who was most recently seen as Aurora in Bourne's Sleeping Beauty. Rising star and fellow Aurora, Cordelia Braithwaite, also plays the role along with Sleeping Beauty favourite Katrina Lyndon in her principal role debut at certain performances. For tickets see [www.birminghamhippodrome.com](http://www.birminghamhippodrome.com) or call 0844 338 5000.

Ballet is also on the agenda at Wolverhampton Grand Theatre where the Russian State Ballet of Siberia make their annual visit from Sunday to Tuesday. This year's repertoire is The Nutcracker on Sunday (4pm), Swan Lake on Monday (7.30) and Coppelia on Tuesday (7.30). See the website [www.grandtheatre.co.uk](http://www.grandtheatre.co.uk) or call 01902 429212.

## Transatlantic folk unite for Brum gig

SHETLAND fiddler Aly Bain and US dobro master Jerry Douglas are joined by John Paul White, Tift Merritt, Dick Powell, Jim Lauderdale and ex-Fairground Attraction singer Eddi Reader for Transatlantic Sessions at Symphony Hall, Birmingham, on Thursday (Feb 9).

St Leonard's Horses (AKA Kieran Leonard) blends folk, country and rock at the Sunflower Lounge in Brum city centre this Saturday. Guardian journalist George Monbiot and folk singer Ewan McLennan, who collaborated on album Breaking The Spell Of Loneliness, are at the MAC, in Cannon Hill Park, Edgbaston on Wednesday.

## Wonders full of melodic power pop

PENNSYLVANIA pop-punk outfit The Wonder Years follow up fifth album No Closer To Heaven with a gig at the O2 Institute tomorrow (Friday) with support from PUP and Tiny Moving Parts.

Howie Payne, from Liverpool group The Stands, is at the Hare & Hounds in Kings Heath on Tuesday.

X Factor boy band Union J play Brum's O2 Academy 2 on Wednesday featuring new member Casey Johnson from Stereo Kicks. London guitar slingers Inheaven bring their wall of sound to Wolverhampton's Slade Rooms next Thursday (Feb 9) with Freak supporting.

## Anthrax are back among the living

IT'S a good week ahead for rock fans. As well as the Black Sabbath gigs at the Genting Arena (see above), New York thrash metal monsters Anthrax are back in Blighty for a series of gigs, including Birmingham's O2 Institute next Thursday, February 9. The powerhouse five-piece fronted by Joey Belladonna will be blasting Digbeth with fans' favourite album, Among The Living, plus latest record For All Kings. Support from London's The Raven Age.

If you prefer your raw rock vintage style, rockabilly combo The Deadshots are at the Hare & Hounds, Kings Heath, on Sunday.

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CHOICE



Tom Hardy

**Taboo (BBC1, 9.15pm)**  
A duel at dawn takes a surprising turn, as mercurial adventurer and would-be international business magnate James Delaney is blackmailed into a dangerous mission, one which takes the form of a deadly race against time. Meanwhile, Delaney's malevolent brother-in-law Thorne pushes his seething jealousy into a vicious and spiritual realm, and as the threat of an embarrassing loss to the colonial upstarts in the Americas rises, the animosity between the Crown and the East India Company escalates to new heights. Historical drama, starring Tom Hardy and Jefferson Hall.

BBC1

**6.00** Breakfast. **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Live. **11.30** The Best Dishes Ever. (R) **12.00** Football Focus. **1.00** BBC News; Weather. **1.15** Six Nations Preview. **2.00** Live Six Nations Rugby Union. Scotland v Ireland (Kick-off 2.25pm). **4.30** Final Score. **5.30** BBC News. **5.40** Regional Programme. **5.50** Pointless Celebrities. (R) **6.40** **Let It Shine.** The talent contest changes tack, as Mel Giedroyc and Graham Norton introduce the next stage of the selection process. This week, the would-be pop stars get a taste of performing in groups for the first time, and Lulu takes up Amber Riley's former position on the judging panel. The theme for this round is "collaboration", with each group of boys teaming up with either Olly Murs, Kaiser Chiefs, Melanie C, Bustd or Beverley Knight to perform three-song mega-sets in their new ensembles. After each performance, judges Dannii Minogue, Lulu, Martin Kemp and Gary Barlow must select five lads from each group to form the bands for next week's live round. **8.25** **Casualty.** The morning of Charlie's wedding arrives, and Cal and Ethan wake hung-over following a riotous the stag party. However, the pair have no memory of the previous night's events, Charlie is missing, and Cal seems to have acquired a mysterious suitcase, which is cuffed to his wrist. Retracing their steps takes them back to a B&B, a tattoo parlour and a strip club, leading to a deadly encounter with a criminal intent on reclaiming the suitcase. Meanwhile, Duffy worries that her groom has developed cold feet, Iain receives a visiting order from Gem, and Ellie learns a second complaint has been made against her. **9.15** **Taboo.** James Delaney is blackmailed into accepting a deadly mission. **10.15** **BBC News;** Weather; National Lottery Update. **10.30** **Match of the Day.** Gary Lineker presents highlights of the latest Premier League matches, which included Chelsea v Arsenal at Stamford Bridge. **12.00** The NFL Show. **12.35** **Film:** Disconnect. (2012) **2.25** Weather for the Week Ahead. **2.30** BBC News.

BBC2

**6.50** **Film:** Lady Luck. (1946) **8.25** **Film:** School for Scoundrels. (1960) **10.00** Britain's Secret Seas. (R) **11.00** Homes Under the Hammer. (R) **12.00** **A Cook Abroad:** Dave Myers' Egypt. (R) **1.00** **Film:** The Importance of Being Earnest. (2002) Oscar Wilde comedy, starring Rupert Everett and Colin Firth. **2.30** Natural World. (R) **3.30** The World's Most Extraordinary Homes. (R) **4.30** Mastermind. (R) **5.00** University Challenge. (R) **5.30** Only Connect. (R) **6.00** **Live Davis Cup Tennis.** Canada v Great Britain. Sue Barker introduces coverage of the doubles rubber on day two of the World Group first-round tie at The Arena at TD Place, Ottawa. Much of Britain's recent success in the competition has been down to their results in doubles ties, with Andy and Jamie Murray the favoured partnership, although Andy is missing from the British squad on this occasion. With commentary by Chris Bradnam, Jamie Baker and John Lloyd. **8.30** **Dad's Army.** A major decides Corporal Jones is too old to be in the Home Guard, asking him to prove his worth by completing an assault course. Comedy, starring Clive Dunn. (R) **9.00** **QI XL.** Guests Lucy Porter, Frankie Boyle and Ross Noble join regular panellist Alan Davies and host Sandi Toksvig to contemplate the theme "next" in this extended episode. As usual, correctness and even intelligence go out of the window in this quiz, in which the questions are so difficult points are awarded for the answers its questionmaster finds most interesting. **9.45** **Film: The Falling.** (2014) Premiere. A 1960s girls' school is rocked by the sudden death of a star pupil. Soon afterwards, the students suffer an outbreak of mass hysteria, and begin inexplicably fainting. The close friendship between two very different girls seems to lie at the centre of the strange happenings. Drama, starring Maisie Williams. **11.25** **Film: Julie & Julia.** (2009) Biopic telling the stories of 1960s American chef Julia Child and modern-day blogger Julie Powell, who tries to emulate her heroine in the kitchen. With Meryl Streep. **1.20** **Film:** In Darkness. (2011) **3.35** This is BBC Two.

ITV

**6.10** Grizzly Tales for Gruesome Kids. (R) **6.25** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **6.35** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **6.45** Sooty. (R) **6.55** Signed Stories: Share a Story. (R) **7.00** Super 4. (R) **7.15** Oddbods. (R) **7.20** Oddbods. (R) **7.30** Scrambled! Scrambled! **7.35** Scrambled! Mr Bean: The Animated Series. (R) **7.50** Scrambled! Horrid Henry. (R) **8.10** Scrambled! Teen Titans Go! (R) **8.30** Scrambled! Bear Grylls Survival School. **9.05** Scrambled! Adventure Time. (R) **9.25** ITV News. **9.30** Rebound. (R) **10.25** Guess This House. (R) **11.25** Judge Rinder. (R) **12.30** ITV News; Weather. **12.40** River Monsters. (R) **1.10** Tipping Point. (R) **2.15** Dance Dance Dance. (R) **3.45** Regional Programme. Weather **3.55** ITV News; Weather. **4.10** Live Six Nations Rugby Union. England v France (Kick-off 4.50pm). **7.00** **Ninja Warrior UK.** Competitors from across the UK test their strength, speed and courage in this obstacle-course challenge, hosted by Ben Shepherd, Rochelle Humes and Chris Kamara. **8.00** **The Voice UK.** The spinning-chair singing contest's Blind Audition phase continues into its fifth week, as coaches Will.i.am, Jennifer Hudson, Tom Jones and Gavin Rossdale hunt for the nation's next singing superstar. As ever, the auditionees are invited to perform on stage, while the all-star panellists sit with their backs to the singer, only turning their chair around to see who they have just been serenaded by if they are suitably impressed by the performer. Naturally, as the contest continues to roll on, remaining spaces on each coach's teams are running short, and competition to claim the left-over spots will be as fierce as ever. **9.30** **Through the Keyhole.** Cold Feet actor John Thomson, Coronation Street star Kym Marsh and presenter Stephen Mulhern try to guess which three stars' homes Keith Lemon has invaded. **10.30** **ITV News;** Weather. **10.45** **Film: The Bourne Supremacy.** (2004) The amnesiac assassin is framed for a botched CIA operation and faces a fight for survival as he tries to uncover his past. Action thriller sequel, with Matt Damon and Brian Cox. **12.40** Jackpot247. **3.00** Who's Doing the Dishes? (R) **3.10** ITV Nightscreen.

CHANNEL 4

**6.20** The King of Queens. (R) **6.45** The King of Queens. (R) **7.10** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **7.35** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.00** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.30** Frasier. (R) **9.00** Frasier. (R) **9.30** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **10.00** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **10.25** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **10.50** The Simpsons. (R) **11.20** The Simpsons. (R) **11.50** Jamie and Jimmy's Friday Night Feast. (R) **12.55** Come Dine with Me. (R) **1.25** Come Dine with Me. (R) **1.55** Come Dine with Me. (R) **2.25** Come Dine with Me. (R) **2.55** Come Dine with Me. (R) **3.25** A Place in the Sun: Summer Sun. (R) **4.30** Location, Location, Location. (R) **5.30** Grand Designs. (R) **6.30** **Channel 4 News.** **7.00** **Penelope Keith's Hidden Villages.** Penelope visits North Yorkshire, England's largest county, where she samples local dialect in the remote villages of Upper Swaledale. She also takes in the sights of Gracoe, the village featured in the film Calendar Girls, and heads for the North York Moors and Goathland, where she witnesses a Viking sword dance. Plus, a trip to the failed seaside resort of Ravenscar, and a tour of an artists' retreat in Staithes. (R) **8.00** **Great Canal Journeys.** Timothy West and Prunella Scales embark on a journey into their pasts via the Leeds and Liverpool Canal, which celebrates its 200th anniversary this year. Along the way, they visit the country's last surviving steam-powered textile mill, meander through the "curlies", and meet acclaimed poet Simon Armitage. They also take a trip by steam train to the home of the Brontë sisters in Haworth, and are confronted by the Salts Mill after tackling the steepest lock staircase in Britain. Last in the series. (R) **9.00** **Film: A Million Ways to Die in the West.** (2014) Premiere. A timid farmer abandoned by his girlfriend is fascinated by a mysterious woman who rides into his frontier town. He tries to act the part of a gunslinging Wild West hero to impress her, only to find himself facing a showdown with her notorious outlaw husband. Western spoof, directed by and starring Seth MacFarlane. **11.15** **Film: Van Helsing.** (2004) **1.40** The Last Leg. (R) **2.35** Hollyoaks. **4.45** Win It Cook It. (R)

CHANNEL 5

**6.00** Milkshake! **9.55** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. (R) **10.30** **Film:** Kelly's Heroes. (1970) **1.10** Police Interceptors. (R) **2.10** Police Interceptors. (R) **3.10** The Nightmare Neighbour Next Door. (R) **4.10** The Nightmare Neighbour Next Door. (R) **5.10** Nightmare Tenants, Slum Landlords. (R) **6.10** **Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away.** Documentary giving an insight into the world of debt collection from the perspectives of debtors, creditors and those who collect the payments. Repossession experts Mike Allonby and Terry Jones roam the streets, looking for cars belonging to people with outstanding unpaid loans, while high court enforcement officers Paul Bohill and Steve Pinner evict a taxi driver from his home of 19 years for a debt of almost £30,000. (R) **7.05** **NCIS: Los Angeles.** The team investigates when a naval seaman and an infamous arms dealer are found dead near the Mexican border. **8.00** **NCIS.** Abby visits a pharmaceutical lab to investigate a murder case, but when armed men storm the facility and hold everyone hostage, she finds herself trapped within the building. **8.55** **5 News Weekend.** **9.00** **Football on 5: The Championship.** George Riley and Lynsey Hipgrave introduce action from the latest fixtures, which included Bristol City v Rotherham United at Ashton Gate, Ipswich Town v Reading at Portman Road, and Nottingham Forest v Aston Villa at The City Ground. **10.00** **Football on 5: Goal Rush.** George Riley and Lynsey Hipgrave introduce all the goals from the latest matches in Leagues One and Two, including Shrewsbury Town v Bury, and Cambridge United v Plymouth Argyle. **10.30** **Britain's Biggest Armed Robbery.** The Brinks Mat heist of 1983, the country's biggest and most notorious armed robbery, which caused the price of gold to soar and sent ripples through the criminal underworld. **11.30** **Police Interceptors: Takedown.** Vinnie Jones joins up with officers from two forces. (R) **12.00** SuperCasino. **3.10** Celebrity Botched Up Bodies. (R)

DIGITAL

**BBC Four**  
**7.00** Timeshift: Magnificent Machines – The Golden Age of the British Sports Car **8.00** Treasures of the Indus **9.00** Attenborough and the Giant Egg **10.00** The Young Montalbano **11.45** Top of the Pops: 1983 **12.50** Robert Plant @ Glastonbury **2.00** The Rolling Stones at the BBC **2.45** Jeff Lynne's ELO in Concert **3.50** Close **ITV2** **11.20** Ninja Warrior UK **12.20** Take Me Out **1.25** You've Been Framed! Gold **1.50** **Film:** Step Up 2: The Streets (2008) **2.50** FYI Daily **2.55** **Film:** Step Up 2: The Streets (2008) **3.55** **Film:** Inspector Gadget (1999) **4.55** FYI Daily **5.00** **Film:** Inspector Gadget (1999) **5.30** **Film:** Snow Dogs (2002) **6.30** FYI Daily **6.35** **Film:** Snow Dogs (2002) **7.35** **Film:** The Build of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring (2001) **8.35** FYI Daily **8.40** **Film:** The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring (2001) **11.00** Family Guy **12.30** American Dad! **12.55** **Film:** Run Fat Boy Run (2007) **1.55** FYI Daily **2.05** **Film:** Run Fat Boy Run (2007) **2.45** Teleshopping **5.45** ITV2 Nightscreen **ITV3** **12.00** **Film:** Carry On Jack (1963) **12.45** Lewis **2.50** Wycliffe **4.00** Agatha Christie's Marple **6.00** Midsomer Murders **8.00** Doc Marple **9.00** Midsomer Murders **11.00** Lewis **1.00** Blue Murder **2.00** ITV3 Nightscreen **2.30** Teleshopping **ITV4** **11.00** Counting Cars **11.50** Pawn Stars **1.15** Barcelona's European Glory **1.30** ITV Racing Live from Sandown. **4.00** **Film:** Superman (1978) **5.00** FYI Daily **5.05** **Film:** Superman (1978) **6.55** Mr Bean **8.00** River Monsters **9.05** **Film:** Bullitt (1968) **10.05** FYI Daily **10.10** **Film:** Bullitt (1968) **11.25** **Film:** Game of Death (2010) **12.25** FYI Daily **12.30** **Film:** Game of Death (2010) **1.30** Hell on Wheels **2.25** Tommy Cooper **2.50** ITV4 Nightscreen **3.00** Teleshopping **E4** **3.30** Brooklyn Nine-Nine **4.40** The Big Bang Theory **8.00** Marvel's Agents of SHIELD **9.00** **Film:** X-Men (2000) **11.00** Gogglebox **12.40** The Inbetweeners **1.50** Cheving Gum **2.25** Virtually Famous **3.05** The Inbetweeners **4.00** Rude Tube **Film4** **11.00** Millions (2004) **1.00** Carry On Nurse (1959) **2.45** The Borrowers (1997) **4.25** Von Ryan's Express (1965) **6.45** Tower Heist (2011) **9.00** A Good Day to Die Hard (2013) **10.55** Resident Evil: Extinction (2007) **12.45** District 9 (2009) **3.00** Close



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CHOICE



Caprice

**The Jump (Channel 4, 7.30pm)**  
New series. Davina McCall presents the celebrity winter sport show, with contestants Bradley Wiggins, Spencer Matthews, Robbie Fowler, Caprice, Jade Jones, Louis Smith, Kadeena Cox, Lydia Bright, Mark Dolan, Vogue Williams, Jason Robinson, Gareth Thomas, Josie Gibson and Emma Parker Bowles risking life and limb. The first challenge they face is a gruelling parallel slalom down a mountain course, with the losers of each head-to-head race facing the jump to determine which one of them will be eliminated from the contest.

BBC1

**6.00** Breakfast. **7.25** Match of the Day. (R) **9.00** The Andrew Marr Show. **10.00** The Big Questions. **11.00** Regional Programme. **12.15** Bargain Hunt. (R) **1.00** BBC News: Weather. **1.15** Homes Under the Hammer. (R) **2.15** Wanted Down Under. (R) **2.45** Escape to the Country. (R) **3.30** Songs of Praise. **4.05** Spy in the Wild. (R) **5.05** Spy in the Wild. (R)  
**6.05** BBC News.  
**6.20** Regional Programme.  
**6.30** Countryfile. An episode focused on birds, in which Matt Baker visits an RSPB reserve for pink-footed geese on the Norfolk Coast and a school taking part in a bird count. Helen Skelton goes in search of flocks of starlings in Cumbria and meets an artist who paints using feather quills. Tom Heap reports on the latest outbreak of bird flu, while Adam Henson reveals the steps he is taking to prevent the spread of the disease on his farm. Including weather for the week ahead.  
**7.30** **Still Open All Hours.** Granville opens a delivery point for internet shopping, and a particularly large order gives him an idea for how Gastric can find a way to impress Madge. Last in the series.  
**8.00** **Call the Midwife.** The government plans to close down small hospitals in favour of larger establishments. Dr Turner and Shelagh prepare for an inspection that will decide the maternity home's fate.  
**9.00** **Apple Tree Yard.** Yvonne is arrested for murder. She soon comes to realise that everything Costley told her was a lie – and that he is the only person who can keep her out of prison. Concludes tomorrow.  
**10.00** BBC News.  
**10.20** Regional Programme.  
**10.30** Match of the Day 2. Gabby Logan reviews the day's Premier League action, featuring Leicester City v Manchester United at the King Power Stadium and Manchester City v Swansea City at the Etihad Stadium.  
**11.20** **NFL Live: Super Bowl 51.** New England Patriots v Atlanta Falcons (Kick-off 11.30pm). Coverage of the showpiece match from NRG Stadium in Houston, Texas.  
**4.00** Weather for the Week Ahead. **4.05** BBC News.

BBC2

**6.45** Big Dreams Small Spaces. (R) **7.45** An Island Parish: Anguilla. (R) **8.15** The Edible Garden. (R) **8.45** Countryfile. (R) **9.45** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. **11.15** Nigel Slater's Dish of the Day. (R) **11.45** Nigel Slater's Dish of the Day. (R) **12.15** MOTD2 Extra.  
**1.00** Live Netball. England v Australia (Centre-pass 1.00pm). **2.45** Nitro Athletics: Usain Bolt Takes On The World. **3.45** Money for Nothing. (R) **4.30** Footy IT! (R) **5.15** Ski Sunday.  
**6.00** **Six Nations Rugby Union.** John Inverdale introduces action from the opening weekend of this year's tournament, featuring Scotland v Ireland at Murrayfield, 2016 Grand Slam winners England v France at Twickenham and Italy v Wales at the Stadio Olimpico.  
**7.00** **City in the Sky.** Dallas Campbell and Dr Hannah Fry conclude the series by examining the process of bringing a plane safely to the ground. Hannah meets air traffic controllers at the world's busiest airport and visits a site that has seen over 2000 unscheduled landings in the last decade. Dallas sits in the cockpit of a plane heading for Paro, Bhutan, a place where only 26 pilots in the world are qualified to land. Last in the series. (R)  
**8.00** **Dragons' Den.** The panel assess the profit-making potential of a plan for teaching children languages, a security gadget for patio doors, a device for the hard of hearing and a range of soup.  
**9.00** **Special Forces – Ultimate Hell Week.** Army training challenge, in which contestants must endure gruelling military-grade conditioning drills from around the world.  
**10.00** **Live at the Apollo.** Sitcom star and The Last Leg regular Josh Widdicombe welcomes Londoner Nathan Caton and Australian comic Celia Pacquola to the stage at London's Hammersmith Apollo. (R)  
**10.45** **Women's Six Nations Highlights.** Highlights from this year's tournament.  
**11.15** **Davis Cup Tennis.** Canada v Great Britain. Sue Barker presents action from the concluding singles rubbers on day three of the World Group first-round tie at The Arena at TD Place, Ottawa.  
**12.45** Sign Zone: Question Time. (R) **1.45** Holby City. (R) **2.45** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

**6.00** CITV: Grizzly Tales for Gruesome Kids. **6.10** Grizzly Tales for Gruesome Kids. (R) **6.25** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **6.45** Sooty. (R) **6.55** Signed Stories: Share a Story. (R) **7.00** Super 4. (R) **7.15** Oddbods. (R) **7.20** Oddbods. (R) **7.30** Scrambled!: Scrambled! **7.35** Scrambled!: Mr Bean: The Animated Series. (R) **7.50** Scrambled!: Ultimate Spider-Man: Web Warriors. **8.20** Scrambled!: Horrid Henry. (R) **8.45** Scrambled!: Teen Titans Go! (R) **9.05** Scrambled!: Adventure Time. (R) **9.25** Countrywise: Guide to Britain. (R) **10.00** Peston on Sunday. **10.55** Gino's Italian Escape: Hidden Italy. (R) **11.25** The Voice UK. (R) **12.55** ITV News: Weather. **1.00** Live Six Nations Rugby Union. Italy v Wales (Kick-off 2.00pm). **4.15** The Chase. (R) **5.15** Ninja Warrior UK. (R)  
**6.15** ITV News: Weather.  
**6.30** **Dance Dance Dance.** Alesha Dixon and Will Best host the semi-final of the celebrity dance contest. To win a place in the final, each contestant must give a solo and a duo performance, recreating dance routines made famous in music videos by artists including Rihanna, Michael Jackson and Sia. Judges Ashley Banjo, Tina Landon and Timor Steffens are on hand to decide who will be going through to the final.  
**8.00** **Lion Country: Night and Day.** New series. Cameras follow two prides of lions in their territory of Zambia's South Luangwa National Park over the course of six months. A cub's curiosity gets the better of him when it strays from the pride's territory, and becomes easy prey for leopards and hyenas. A lioness tries to rejoin a pride, but many of the males in the group are resistant to the idea. The camera crew gets closer to the big cats than they bargained for, and are forced to beat a hasty retreat.  
**9.00** **The Good Karma Hospital.** New series. Medical drama about a junior doctor who leaves the UK to start a new life in South India, and finds a new calling at a hospital run by an eccentric English ex-pat.  
**10.00** ITV News: Weather.  
**10.15** **Peston on Sunday.** Political magazine, presented by Robert Peston. (R)  
**11.15** **Anglo-Welsh Cup Highlights.** **12.20** Jackpot247. **3.00** Chopping Block. (R) **3.50** ITV Nightscreen. **5.05** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R)

CHANNEL 4

**6.10** The King of Queens. (R) **6.35** The King of Queens. (R) **7.00** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **7.30** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **7.55** Frasier. (R) **8.25** Frasier. (R) **8.55** Frasier. (R) **9.30** Sunday Brunch. **12.30** George Clarke's Amazing Spaces. (R) **1.30** The Simpsons. (R) **2.00** The Simpsons. (R) **2.30** The Simpsons. (R) **3.00** Film: Step Up All In. (2014) Premiere. Dance drama, starring Ryan Guzman. **5.15** Channel 4 News. **5.45** Film: Ice Age: Dawn of the Dinosaurs. (2009) Sid the sloth discovers three eggs – but when they hatch into dinosaurs, he struggles to keep them under control. The creatures' mother comes looking for her offspring and takes them and Sid to an underground world where the giant reptiles never became extinct. Sid's friends, aided by a crazed one-eyed weasel, head for this strange new land to rescue him. Animated adventure sequel, with the voices of John Leguizamo, Denis Leary, Ray Romano and Simon Pegg.  
**7.30** **The Jump.** New series. Davina McCall presents the celebrity winter sport show, with 14 famous faces competing in dangerous challenges, beginning with a parallel slalom race down a mountain.  
**9.00** **Homeland.** Saul ventures to Abu Dhabi, and Carrie is forced to deliver bad news. Meanwhile, Quinn suspects something is amiss. Guest starring Dominic Monaghan (Nurse Jackie).  
**10.08** **8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown.** Jimmy Carr hosts the comedy panel show's version of the words-and-numbers quiz, as Jon Richardson and Jayde Adams take on Sean Lock and Joe Wilkinson. (R)  
**11.00** **Film: Magic Mike.** (2012) A veteran male stripper teaches a young dancer the tricks of the trade, and introduces him to a hedonistic lifestyle. Comedy drama, starring Channing Tatum and Matthew McConaughey.  
**1.10** How to Lose Weight With Diet. Crashers Emma and Kaye have 10 days to slim down for a day at the races. Last in the series. (R) **2.05** Britain's Billionaire Immigrants. Focusing on China's elite who are obsessed with everything British. (R) **3.00** Your Face Says It All. Documentary revealing hidden secrets of the human face. (R) **3.35** Kirstie's Handmade Treasures. (R) **4.10** Phil Spencer: Secret Agent. (R)

CHANNEL 5

**6.00** Milkshake!: Milkshake! Monkey. **6.05** Milkshake! Bop Box. (R) **6.10** Peppa Pig. (R) **6.15** Wanda and the Alien. (R) **6.25** Bob the Builder. (R) **6.35** Angelina Ballerina. (R) **6.50** Zack and Quack. (R) **7.00** Seaside Antics. (R) **7.05** Fireman Sam. (R) **7.20** Pip Ahoy! (R) **7.30** Little Princess. (R) **7.50** Paw Patrol. (R) **8.00** Blaze and the Monster Machines. (R) **8.25** Noddy in Toyland. (R) **8.45** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **9.00** Shimmer and Shine. **9.20** Peppa Pig. (R) **9.35** Peppa Pig. (R) **9.45** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **9.55** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. (R) **10.30** Football on 5: The Championship. (R) **11.25** Football on 5: Goal Rush. (R) **12.00** Benefit House. Me & My 26 Kids. (R) **1.00** Benefits Britain: Life on the Dole. (R) **2.00** Benefits Britain: Life on the Dole. (R) **3.00** Film: Leap Year. (2010) Romantic comedy, starring Amy Adams and Matthew Goode. **4.50** Film: Around the World in 80 Days. (2004) Comedy adventure, starring Steve Coogan and Jackie Chan.  
**7.05** **Film: Jackie Chan's The Medallion.** (2003) An evil crime lord tries to capture a boy who has supernatural powers, but a team of international police officers is on his trail. One of the cops is killed saving the child, who resurrects him using a magical medallion. The revived detective now has superhuman abilities, which he uses to protect the young host. Comedy adventure, with Jackie Chan, Lee Evans, Julian Sands, Claire Forlani and John Rhys-Davies. Edited for violence. Includes 5 News Update.  
**8.55** **5 News Weekend.**  
**9.00** **When Live TV Goes Horribly Wrong.** Memorable on-air hitches, including presenter Sarah Cavood recalling the time The National Lottery Jetset studio was invaded by Fathers for Justice protestors, Bucks Fizz star Cheryl Baker offering insight into Eurovision's most off-key moments, and veteran journalist John Stapleton opening up about the occasion The Time. The Place was taken off the air due to a demonstration. Plus, rare moments of imperfection on Lorraine, This Is Your Life and The Charlie Drake Show. Other contributors include Penny Smith, Dom Joly, Maria McErlane and Matt Johnson.  
**12.05** **Celebrity Botched Up Bodies.** (R) **1.00** SuperCasino. **3.10** Get Your Tatts Out: Kavos Ink. (R)

DIGITAL

**BBC Four**  
**7.00** Hidden Killers of the Victorian Home  
**8.00** British History's Biggest Fibs with Lucy Worsley **9.00** Darcy Bussell: Looking for Margot **10.00** Film: The Past (2013) **12.05** Legends of the Deep: Deep Sea Sharks **1.00** Legends of the Deep: Giant Squid **1.45** Horizon: The Power of the Placebo **2.45** Darcy Bussell: Looking for Margot **3.45** Close  
**ITV2**  
**2.50** **Film:** Mr Magorium's Wonder Emporium (2007) **3.50** FYI Daily **3.55** **Film:** Mr Magorium's Wonder Emporium (2007) **4.40** **Film:** The Princess Diaries 2: Royal Engagement (2004) **5.40** FYI Daily **5.45** **Film:** The Princess Diaries 2: Royal Engagement (2004) **7.00** **Film:** Evan Almighty (2007) **8.00** FYI Daily **8.05** **Film:** Evan Almighty (2007) **9.00** Ibiza Weekender XXL **10.30** Family Guy **12.25** American Dad! **1.25** The Cleveland Show **2.15** Teleshopping **5.45** ITV2 Nightscreen  
**ITV3**  
**2.45** Agatha Christie's Marple **4.50** **Teleshopping** **5.55** This Time Next Year **7.00** Midsummer Murders **9.00** Tonight at the London Palladium **10.00** Birds of a Feather **10.30** **Film:** Captain Corelli's Mandolin (2001) **11.30** FYI Daily **11.35** **Film:** Captain Corelli's Mandolin (2001) **1.05** A Touch of Frost **2.50** **Teleshopping** **5.25** On the Buses **5.55** ITV3 Nightscreen  
**ITV4**  
**2.45** **Film:** Every Which Way But Loose (1978) **3.45** FYI Daily **3.50** **Film:** Every Which Way But Loose (1978) **5.00** **Film:** Superman (1978) **6.05** FYI Daily **6.10** **Film:** Superman (1978) **8.00** The Chase: Celebrity Special **9.00** Anglo-Welsh Cup Highlights **10.05** **Film:** Mars Attacks! (1996) **11.05** FYI Daily **11.10** **Film:** Mars Attacks! (1996) **12.15** **Film:** A Dangerous Man (2010) **1.15** FYI Daily **1.20** **Film:** A Dangerous Man (2010) **2.10** Hell on Wheels **2.55** ITV4 Nightscreen **3.00** Teleshopping  
**E4**  
**2.10** The Goldbergs **4.00** The Big Bang Theory **6.25** **Film:** Battleship (2012) **9.00** Marvel's Agents of SHIELD **10.00** **Film:** This Means War (2012) **12.00** Tattoo Fixers **1.05** Gogglebox **2.10** Marvel's Agents of SHIELD **3.00** Rubie Tube  
**Film4**  
**1.00** City of Ember (2008) **1.00** Carry On Constable (1960) **2.40** Banslam (2009) **4.50** The Jewel of the Nile (1985) **7.00** Turner & Hoach (1989) **9.00** The Purge: Anarchy (2014) **11.05** Whiteout (2009) **1.10** Viva Rival (2010) **3.10** Close

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FILM CHOICES

MONDAY

**The Bucket List, Channel 5, 10.30pm**

Two terminally ill cancer patients, one a wealthy tycoon, the other a penniless mechanic, resolve to enjoy the time they have left to live life to the full. While in hospital, the pair draw up a list of all the things they have always wanted to do but never found the time, before embarking on a mission to try them all. Comedy, starring Jack Nicholson. (2007)

TUESDAY

**Killer Assistant, Channel 5, 3.20pm**

A high-profile magazine editor seemingly has the perfect life and career. However, when she takes on a new assistant, a brief affair and his clandestine plotting threatens to send the woman into a downward spiral of life-changing proportions. Thriller, starring Arianne Zucker and Brando Eaton. (2016)

WEDNESDAY

**Someone to Watch Over Me, BBC1, 11.45pm**

A New York socialite witnesses a club owner's murder at the hands of a powerful mobster, prompting the police to assign a detective to protect her. However, when the married cop begins to fall for his glamorous charge, he faces a conflict of loyalties. Ridley Scott's romantic thriller, starring Tom Berenger. (1987)



**Blood Diamond, Friday, BBC1, 11.55pm**

THURSDAY

**The Vanished Family: Aurora Teagarden Mystery 4, Channel 5, 3.15pm**

After an exhaustive house-hunt, crime-solving librarian Aurora finally purchases her dream home. However, as she sets about moving in, she discovers the property has a murky history, one involving the sudden disappearance of previous owners. Mystery drama, starring Candace Cameron Bure. (2016)

FRIDAY

**Blood Diamond, BBC1, 11.55pm**

Smuggler Danny Archer ends up in prison in war-torn Sierra Leone in 1999, where he meets Solomon, a Mende fisherman separated from his family by guerrillas. Danny pledges to help the desperate man rescue his son, who has been forcibly conscripted as a child soldier, in return for a rare pink diamond. Action thriller, starring Leonardo DiCaprio. (2006)

## Famous faces face a test on the waters

Oh to have been a fly on the wall during the meeting to set up this show...

You can imagine it – blown over by the success of Channel 4's Great Canal Journeys featuring married thespians Timothy West and Prunella Scales, not to mention ITV's Barging Round Britain with John Sergeant, those folks at Channel 5 decided they needed to get a piece of the personable boat trip action.

Well, you would, wouldn't you?

And if something ain't broke, there's no need to fix it, so the station decided not to tinker with the format too much. As a result they have brought in four famous faces and sent them on their way for an adventure. Hopefully anyway – otherwise it's going to be a slightly dull four-part series.

First into the fray are Debbie McGee and Nigel Havers. She's best known for being the widow of Paul Daniels, and found fame initially as his glamorous assistant (her name tended to be prefaced by the word 'lovely' back in their 1980s heyday);

these days she's a star in her own right.

Havers is, of course, that dashing actor who has graced the screen in a number of acclaimed projects, including Chariots of Fire, A Passage to India and Empire of the Sun. He even added a little bit of class to Coronation Street as charming schemer Lewis Archer.

McGee and Havers both have experience of steering boats, so should find their trip a doddle. Unfortunately, that proves to be far from the case...

Their novice neighbours, Lorraine Chase and Simon Callow, struggle too. Chase spent four years as an Emmerdale regular thanks to her role as Steph Forsythe, but is still best known for a string of adverts she made in the 1970s which used her strong cockney accent to their full.

Callow is, of course, an actor of some note, having appeared in numerous acclaimed stage roles, from Shakespeare to Beckett and beyond. He also made a big impact in Four Weddings and a Funeral, and

has numerous other film roles to his name. However, he isn't above more lowbrow pursuits – his first TV role was in the Carry On Laughing episode Orgy and Bess, although his part was eventually cut from the finished product.

The opening episode sees the quartet embark on their journey along the Kennet and Avon Canal, one of Britain's most popular waterways. They begin in Bristol, but soon end up in trouble thanks to an altercation with a moored boat.

Debbie tries to raise everyone's spirits by making them taste the fruits of her labours in the galley. However, it's the addition of some alcohol that really gets the party started.

Later, the group encounter a local artist, whose gift of a map opens up a world of canal-side entertainment, and inspires them to visit local vineyards (more booze) and call in on the Avondale singers.

Later episodes will feature a trip down the Llangollen Canal on the border between England and Wales.



**Celebrity Carry on Barging, Friday, Channel 5, 8pm**

## BEST OF THE REST

MONDAY

**SAS: Rogue Warriors**

**BBC2, 9pm**

New series. Ben Macintyre uses the SAS archives to examine the history of the British Army special forces unit combining documents, unseen footage and interviews with its founding members to tell the remarkable story behind an extraordinary fighting force. In the first edition, he looks at its formation in the heat of the north African desert in 1941, when eccentric young British army officer David Archibald Stirling had a vision for a new kind of war in which the enemy was attacked from behind their own lines.

TUESDAY

**The Moorside**

**BBC1, 9pm**

Drama telling the story of the disappearance of nine-year-old Shannon Matthews from the Moorside Estate in Dewsbury. Emotional public appeals for information from her mother Karen Matthews amount to nothing, and the community, led by Julie Bushby, stand by her and make extraordinary efforts of their own to find Shannon. Despite the support, doubts are beginning to creep in for some regarding Karen's behaviour, and friend and neighbour Natalie Brown struggles with her conscience as she becomes convinced that Karen

knows more than she is revealing. Sheridan Smith, Sian Brooke and Gemma Whelan star.

WEDNESDAY

**Climbing the Property Ladder**

**Channel 5, 9pm**

With property shows being a firm fixture on telly schedules for years now, it's hardly surprising that more and more people are deciding to turn their hands to the risky – but often rewarding – world of property development. What is a surprise is the range of people whom this lifestyle attracts. This new series follows those attempting to buy, renovate, and sell houses for profit, including everyone from retirees to youngsters, and single mums to office workers. They include Mary, who was recently laid off and has decided to put her redundancy money and life savings into a run-down Yorkshire cottage. She has her eyes on a healthy £25,000 profit, however her project is at risk of turning into a battle of wills with her builder.

No Offence

**Channel 4, 9pm**

After finding herself suspended

from duty, Deering goes rogue in her efforts to nail Nora. Back at the station, Lickberg tries to control the team, as they urgently intensify the manhunt for one of the Attahs' missing victims. Teegan is sent on an undercover operation and an unlikely alliance is agreed between Nora and the team, who wants

to stop a Female Genital Mutilation cutter arriving on her patch. Starring Joanna Scanlan, Rakie Ayola, Sarah Solemani and Saira Choudhry.

THURSDAY

**After Brexit: The Battle for**

**Europe**

**BBC2, 9pm**

In the wake of last year's referendum result, Britons on both sides of the Brexit debate have been discussing what leaving the European Union will mean for the UK. However, this documentary looks at the implications for the future of EU itself, which is



**The Moorside, Tuesday, BBC1, 9pm**

currently facing the biggest challenge in its 60-year history. As the BBC's Europe Editor Katya Adler points out, it's not just Britain's departure that is making waves – populist eurosceptic movements are on the rise across the continent, leading to the prospect of more countries following the UK's example and voting to leave. As Britain begins the controversial and uncertain process of withdrawing, Adler asks whether the Union can survive.

FRIDAY

**Jamie and Jimmy's Friday Night Feast**

**Channel 4, 8pm**

You might think that good friends and good food combine to make a relaxing Friday night, and usually you'd be right. This edition of old pals Jamie Oliver and Jimmy Doherty's culinary series, however, may prove to be contentious – for Jamie is attempting a paella, the very dish which last year saw the chef draw ire on social media from seemingly the entire population of Spain. His inclusion of chorizo proved particularly controversial, so it will be interesting to see whether the spicy sausage makes it into tonight's recipe. He's cooking the the Valencian staple with actor Martin Clunes, but will they defer to the dish's progenitors, or throw caution to the wind and end up as 'men behaving badly'?

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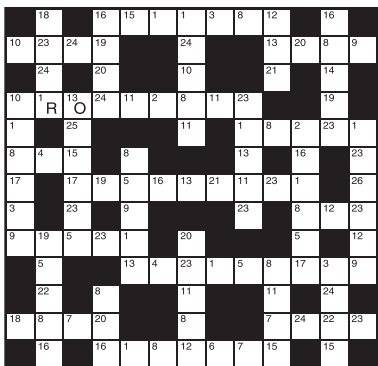
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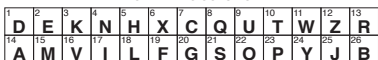
# BRAIN GYM No.414

## Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:



1	R	14
2		15
3		16
4		17
5		18
6		19
7		20
8		21
9		22
10		23
11		24
12		25
13		26

## Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

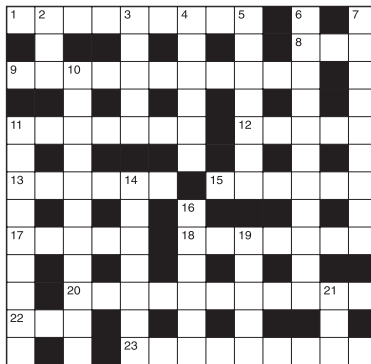
### Cryptic Clues:

#### Across

- Great help, perhaps, in rapid communication (9)
- Eggs swallowed by Croesus (3)
- New baby for a publisher? (6,5)
- Army unit is also included in the plan (7)
- Knowing there's a conflict with the East (5)
- Journey to the game (6)
- A time in which love and pride are mingled (6)
- We hear forty of the Romans do better (5)
- A noted soporific (7)
- It swims with the current! (8,3)
- Listener among the corn (3)
- Segregate something that may be present (6,3)

#### Down

- Are in the ascendant for a while (3)
- Enjoyment shown in getting us together (5)
- Foreigners from an isle (6)
- As he got found out he was taken prisoner (7)
- Take evasive action, in a manner of speaking (11)
- This time tomorrow! (9)
- Merchants who have gone to pot? (11)
- Mad, being had (9)
- Take a job over to break the monotony (7)
- Pastel composition used in the dining room (6)
- French flower I have knowledge about (5)
- Work discovered in the study of ergonomics (3)



### Quick Clues:

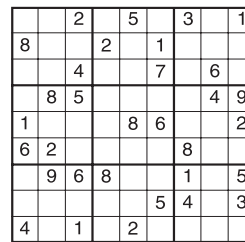
#### Across

- Unlike (9)
- Possess (3)
- Name (11)
- Clumsy persons (7)
- Of them (5)
- Singe (6)
- Contort (6)
- Get to know (5)
- Simplest (7)
- Wrongly (11)
- Self (3)
- Eye-glasses (9)

#### Down

- Freeze (3)
- Bird of prey (5)
- Pass (6)
- Chirp (7)
- Satisfaction (11)
- Cross (9)
- Smothering (11)
- Divulged (9)
- Sneering (7)
- Extreme fear (6)
- Gloss (5)
- Permit (3)

## Sudoku



Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

### LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

7	9	6	3	8	1	4	5	2
2	3	1	7	5	4	6	9	8
8	4	5	6	9	2	7	1	3
9	6	7	2	1	5	8	3	4
5	1	3	8	4	7	2	6	9
4	8	2	9	3	6	1	7	5
3	5	4	1	6	8	9	2	7
6	7	8	5	2	9	3	4	1
1	2	9	4	7	3	5	8	6

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS: CRYPTIC - Across: 7 Ironed; 8 Evolve; 10 Secular; 11 Nodes; 12 More; 13 Thing; 17 Guise; 18 Wood; 22 Okapi; 23 Repulse; 24 Nectar; 25 Played. Down: 1 Winsome; 2 Concert; 3 Cello; 4 Evening; 5 Slide; 6 Cease; 9 Orchestra; 14 Musical; 15 Volleys; 16 Addenda; 19 Joint; 20 March; 21 Apple. QUICK - Across: 7 Rooted; 8 Manage; 10 Diction; 11 Craft; 12 Care; 13 Miser; 17 Delay; 18 Hose; 22 Trade; 23 Hatful; 24 Credit; 25 Crisis. Down: 1 Predict; 2 Concern; 3 Tepid; 4 Satchel; 5 Pagan; 6 Jetty; 9 Antipathy; 14 Dement; 15 Confess; 16 Recluse; 19 Stick; 20 Waver; 21 Story.

## Thinking space

## Quiz

- With which country did Israel sign a peace treaty to end 46 years of conflict?
- Whose poem The Waste Land was first published in 1922?
- Which US state has the nickname the Hawkeye State?
- What does the "c" in E=mc squared represent?
- What name has been given to the former Labour Party HQ?
- Which group of military leaders takes its name from the Spanish for 'council'?
- Which member of the Monty Python team appeared in Mary Shelley's Frankenstein in 1994?
- What is the more common term for harijan, a member of India's lowest caste?
- What is another name for the mountain ash?
- Which area of open downland contains Stonehenge?

### Last week's solutions:

Quiz: 1 Ben Travers; 2 Doppler effect;

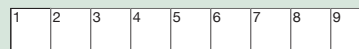
3 Taunton; 4 Interlaken; 5 Harold II; 6 Louvre; 7 Logarithms; 8 Grapefruit, tangerine and orange; 9 Lactose; 10 Mikhail Sholokhov.

Niner: BARITONES

## Niner

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all nine letters.

6249 gives a fabric,  
67898 gives a second fabric,  
153678 gives a third fabric.



# AUCTION 23RD FEBRUARY 2017

0121 233 5046

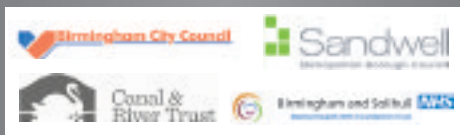
sdlbigwood.co.uk

@SDLBigwood

at Aston Villa Football Ground

## Over 120 Lots

To include properties on behalf of:



Plus properties on behalf of Receivers/Administrators

Vacant Residential Properties  
Residential Investment Properties  
Vacant Commercial Properties  
Commercial Investment Properties  
Land/Development Opportunities  
Garages & Freehold Ground Rents

ENTRIES NOW INVITED FOR OUR NEXT AUCTION



**71 Park Lane, Wednesbury**  
3 Bedroom Semi Detached House  
Guide: £65,000 plus



**15 Charnwood Close, Wolverhampton**  
3 Bedroom Semi Detached House  
Guide: £60,000 plus



**35 Grange Road, West Bromwich**  
3 Bedroom Mid Terraced House  
Guide: £75,000 plus



**90 Wolverhampton Street, Wednesbury**  
3 Bedroom Mid Terraced House  
Guide: £19,00-£24,000



**4-5 Persehouse Street, Walsall**  
15 Bedsits Offering Further Potential  
Current Gross Income: £62,820pa  
Guide: £450,000-£480,000



**Flat 6, 78 Persehouse Street, Walsall**  
1 Bedroom Apartment  
Current Gross Income: £4,500pa  
Guide: £24,000-£28,000



Please note charges may apply in addition to the purchase price on some lots  
For a definition of Guide Price & Reserve price please refer to our catalogue or website  
For the Energy Performance Rating of each property please refer to the legal pack, catalogue or website



# PROPERTY

YOUR WEEKLY  
GUIDE TO HOME  
BUYING AND  
LETTING

## Extended detached house in prominent corner position

Having been sympathetically extended, 40 Highmoor Close, Willenhall, occupies a prominent corner plot.

Deceptively spacious with high standard accommodation, it is for sale through Fraser Wood at £310,000. The property is situated on a popular residential development which is well served by local amenities including public transport services to neighbouring areas, schools for children of all ages and local shopping facilities.

It has a reception hall with oak flooring and a guest cloakroom/WC, a lounge with stairs off to the first floor, oak flooring and a feature inset flueless fire with a remote control and a bay window to the front.

The dining room has patio doors opening to the conservatory. This has ceramic tiled flooring and double doors to the rear garden.

There is also a cinema room with an air conditioning unit.

The well equipped kitchen has ceramic tiled flooring, a range of base units, wall units, an electric double oven and hob, walk-in storage, roll edge work surfaces, a window to the rear and a door to the rear garden.

Upstairs, bedroom one has a range of fitted wardrobes, a dressing table and bedside cabinets and a fully tiled en-suite bathroom with a jacuzzi bath, corner shower cubicle, low flush WC, wash hand basin and a heated towel rail.

Bedroom two comes with an en-suite shower room, which is again fully tiled. It has a corner shower cubicle, low flush WC, wash hand basin and a heated towel rail. Of the two further bedrooms, bedroom four includes a storage cupboard. These are served by a separate shower room.

Again fully tiled and with ceramic floor tiling, it has a shower cubicle, wash hand basin in a vanity unit, a low flush WC and a heated towel rail.

Outside is a block paved driveway providing ample off road parking leading to a double garage.

A side gate leads to the rear garden. This has a mature lawn, block paved patio areas and two sheds.

WILLENHALL £310,000

### TO VIEW THIS PROPERTY

AGENT: Fraser Wood

TEL: 01922 627686

EMAIL: [residential@fraser-wood.co.uk](mailto:residential@fraser-wood.co.uk)



### KEY FEATURES

Extended  
4 bedrooms  
Detached  
Spacious  
Popular development



## She's sold

Turn to your local estate agent to sell your property and you will be **SOLD ON:**

- Professional accredited local agent service
- Free valuation
- Local area knowledge
- Adverts in local newspapers, online and office window display
- Registered house hunters
- Solid marketing advice to help you sell fast

If you are thinking of selling, look no further than the estate agents in these pages for the best local advice available.





Paul Marrion - Partner



Kathy Marrion - Partner

**Energy Rating - D** **NEW**

**Paradise Lane  
Pelsall**

- Detached family home
- PVCu double glazing, gas central heating
- 2 reception rooms, Breakfast
- Kitchen, Utility Room
- 4 Double Bedrooms, En-Suite
- Family Bathroom
- Double garage
- large driveway, rear garden

**£350,000**

**Energy Rating - D** **NEW**

**Somerfield Road  
Bloxwich**

- Semi detached house
- Gas centrally heated
- PVCu double glazed
- 2 large reception rooms, kitchen
- 3 bedrooms, bathroom/WC
- Driveway Parking
- Gardens
- NO ONWARD CHAIN

**£149,950**

**Energy Rating - C** **NEW**

**Hinges Road, The Bridles  
Bloxwich**

- Three store town house
- Gas centrally heated
- PVCu double glazed
- Lounge, kitchen, dining room/alternative bedroom 4
- 3 double bedrooms
- Bathroom/WC
- Garage
- Gardens

**£185,000**

**Energy Rating - C** **NEW**

**Eagleworks Drive, Leamore  
Walsall**

- Third floor apartment
- Gas centrally heated
- PVCu double glazed
- Lounge, kitchen
- 2 bedrooms
- Bathroom/WC
- Allocated Parking
- Gardens

**£90,000**

**Energy Rating - D** **NEW**

**West Street, Leamore  
Walsall**

- Mid terrace house
- Gas centrally heated
- PVCu double glazed
- 2 reception rooms, kitchen
- 2 bedrooms
- Low maintenance gardens
- A must to view!!
- Bathroom/WC

**£93,000**

**Energy Rating - D** **NEW**

**Westminster Road  
Rushall**

- Detached bungalow
- Gas centrally heated
- PVCu double glazed
- Lounge, kitchen, dining room (alternative bedroom 4)
- 3/4 bedrooms, bathroom/WC
- Garage, driveway, gardens
- NO ONWARD CHAIN
- Must Be Viewed

**£259,950**

**Energy Rating - TBC** **NEW**

**Benton Crescent  
Bloxwich**

- Semi detached house
- Gas centrally heated
- PVCu double glazed
- 2 reception rooms, kitchen
- 3 bedrooms
- Parking and gardens
- NO ONWARD CHAIN
- Bathroom/WC

**£135,000**

**Energy Rating - D** **NEW**

**Maple House, Springhill Close  
Shelfield**

- Ground Floor Apartment
- PVCu double glazed
- Lounge, kitchen
- Double bedrooms
- Garage in battery block
- Communal Gardens
- Bathroom/WC
- Must Be Viewed

**£65,000**

**Energy Rating - D** **NEW**

**Carfax  
Cannock**

- Ground Floor Flat
- Gas Central Heating
- PVCu Double Glazing
- Two Bedrooms,
- Lounge/Diner
- Two Bedrooms, Bathroom
- Shared Parking
- NO ONWARD CHAIN

**£70,000**

**Energy Rating - B** **NEW**

**To Let**

**Squires Grove  
Willenhall**

- Modern End Town House,
- Double Glazing a Gas Central Heating, Fitted Kitchen, Lounge/Diner,
- Cloak Room/W.C
- 2 Bedrooms, En-suites
- Driveway
- Front & Rear Gardens
- NO pets, DSS or Smokers
- £180 Reference Fees Apply

**£575**

**Energy Rating - C**

**Oak Crescent, Leamore  
Walsall**

- Semi-Detached House
- PVCu double glazing
- Gas Central Heating
- Lounge, Breakfast Kitchen
- 2 Bedrooms
- Driveway, Rear Garden
- No Onward Chain
- Large Bathroom

**£92,950**

**Energy Rating - C**

**Oakwood Manor, Bealeys Close  
Bloxwich**

- Self contained ground floor apartment
- Gas centrally heated
- Double glazed
- Lounge/ Diner, kitchen
- Double Bedroom
- bathroom/WC
- Allocated Parking Space
- Attractive Communal Gardens

**£109,995**

**Energy Rating - C**

**Reduced**

**Ingestre Close, Turnberry  
Bloxwich**

- Mid terrace house
- Gas centrally heated
- PVCu double glazed
- Lounge, dining kitchen
- 2 bedrooms, shower room/WC
- Allocated parking, gardens
- NO ONWARD CHAIN
- Must Be Viewed

**£110,000**

**Energy Rating - C**

**Clockmill Road, Pelsall  
Walsall**

- Semi detached house
- Gas centrally heated
- PVCu double glazed
- Lounge/dining room, kitchen
- 2 bedrooms, bathroom/WC
- Off road parking, gardens
- NO ONWARD CHAIN
- Must Be Viewed

**£124,950**

**Energy Rating - C**

**Teagues Crescent, Trench  
Telford**

- Semi-Detached House
- Cul-De Sac Location
- Double Glazing a Gas Central Heating,
- 2 Reception Rooms, Kitchen
- 3 Bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Driveway, Large Garage
- Rear Garden

**£129,950**

**Energy Rating - D**

**Pooles Lane, Short Heath  
Willenhall**

- Extended Traditional Semi-Detached Home,
- Three Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Fitted Kitchen/Diner
- Utility Room, Cloakroom
- Family Bathroom
- Lanscaped Rear Garden
- Driveway

**£159,950**

**Energy Rating - C**

**Rough Brook Road, Rushall  
Walsall**

- Three Bedrooms
- Modern End Terrace House
- Gas Centrally Heated and PVCu Double Glazed
- L-Shaped Lounge/Diner
- Fitted Kitchen
- Rear Garden
- No Onward Chain
- Driveway

**£159,950**

**Energy Rating - D**

**Somerfield Road  
Bloxwich**

- Semi Detached House
- Gas Central Heating a PVCu Double Glazing
- Spacious Lounge
- Re-Fitted Kitchen
- Four Bedrooms
- Family Bathroom
- Bathroom/WC
- Rear Garden
- Viewing Recommended

**£165,000**

**Energy Rating - C**

**Ashbourne Road, Lower Farm  
Bloxwich**

- Semi detached house
- Gas centrally heated
- PVCu double glazed
- 2 reception rooms
- 4 bedrooms
- Parking and Gardens
- Bathroom/WC
- Kitchen

**£189,950**

**Energy Rating - E**

**Walsall Road, Great Wyrley  
Walsall**

- Victorian period double fronted villa style
- Gas centrally heating a PVCu double glazed
- 2 Reception Rooms, Large Breakfast Kitchen
- 3 Bedrooms, Bathroom/wc
- Single Car Garage
- Small Rear Garden
- external wc and stores
- Off road parking

**£199,950**

**Energy Rating - D**

**Lichfield Road  
Bloxwich**

- Modern Detached Family Home
- 3 Floors
- Gas Central Heating, PVCu Double Glazing
- Guest Cloaks/WC, Lounge
- Re-Fitted Kitchen/Family Room
- Dining Room, 4 Bedrooms
- 2 En-suites, Family Bathroom
- Integral Garage, Large Rear Gardens

**£275,000**

**Energy Rating - D**

**Bealeys Close  
Bloxwich**

- Modern Detached Family Home
- Gas Central Heating, PVCu Double Glazing
- Lounge, Dining Room
- Fitted Kitchen, Utility Room
- Four Good Sized Bedrooms,
- Ensuite, Jack and Jill Shower Room
- Family Bathroom, Garage Driveway
- Rear Garden

**£299,950**

**Energy Rating - D**

**Stoney Lane, Wallington Heath  
Bloxwich**

- Modern Detached House
- PVCu Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating
- Three Reception Rooms
- Fitted Kitchen, Study,
- Four Double Bedrooms
- Large Secure Driveway
- Large Private Rear Garden

**£375,000**

**Energy Rating - B**

**Stafford Road, Bloxwich**

- Extended Detached Family Home
- Two Reception Rooms
- Fitted Breakfast Kitchen
- Cloakroom, Conservatory
- Six Bedrooms, Three En-suites
- Family Bathroom, Large Driveway
- Rear Garden
- No Onward Chain

**£450,000**

**Energy Rating - C**

**Paddock Gardens  
Walsall**

- Modern Detached Family Home
- Three Reception Rooms, Kitchen
- Family Bathroom
- Double Garage
- Driveway
- Large Rear Garden
- 5 Bedrooms, 2 en-suites
- Must Be Viewed

**£635,000**





**Webbs**  
Estate Agents

**01922  
663399**

**74c Park Road  
Bloxwich WS3 3SW**

E: [sales@webbsestateagents.co.uk](mailto:sales@webbsestateagents.co.uk)

W: [webbsestateagents.co.uk](http://webbsestateagents.co.uk)

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Valuations*

*No Sale  
No Fee*

*Experienced  
Sales Team*

*Established 1994*



**NEW**

**WALSALL**  
SUTTON ROAD

- Detached Character Property
- Two Reception Rooms
- Kitchen
- 3 Bedrooms
- Original Features
- Kitchen, Utility
- Driveway, Garage
- Large Rear Garden
- Viewing Recommended

**Offers Over £330,000**

**WILLENHALL**  
WOOD LANE CLOSE

- Dormer Bungalow
- Entrance Hallway,
- Refitted Kitchen diner
- Lounge with Inglenook fireplace
- Orangery Room.
- Three Bedroom
- Two Bathrooms
- Detached Tandem Garage
- Gardens

**\$309,950**

**WALSALL**  
GILLITY CLOSE

- Dorma Detached Bungalow
- Entrance Hallway
- large Family Lounge
- Seven Bedrooms
- Bathroom and Shower Room
- Sitting Room
- Kitchen/diner, Utility
- En-suite and shower room
- Gardens
- Double Garage

**\$550,000**

**NEW**

**WALSALL**  
FRIARY CRESCENT

- First Floor Apartment
- Secure Entry System
- Lounge
- Kitchen
- Double Bedroom
- Bathroom
- Communal Garden

**\$70,000**

**ESSINGTON**  
UPPER SNEYD ROAD

- Detached Family Home
- Porch, Hallway
- Lounge, Dining Room
- Conservatory
- Kitchen, Utility
- 3 Bedrooms, Bathroom
- Driveway, Garage
- Viewing Essential

**Offers Over £220,000**

**BLOXWICH**  
YIELDFIELDS HALL FARM

- Semi Rural Location
- Det. Dormer Bungalow
- Reception Hallway
- Lounge, Dining Room
- Kitchen, Utility
- Guests WC
- 4 Bedrooms
- Bathroom
- 2 Garages
- Ample Gardens

**\$360,000**

*"Service you expect from the Agent that delivers"*



**NEW** **FEATHERSTONE**  
OAKS DRIVE



- Detached Property
- 2 Reception Rooms
- Large Rear Garden
- 3 Bedrooms
- Original Features
- Garage, Car Port
- Family Bathroom
- block paved patio

**Offers Over \$200,000**


**WALSALL**  
EAGLEWORKS



- Ground Floor
- Hallway
- Lounge
- Kitchen
- 2 Bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Parking
- Viewing

**\$44,950 40% Shared**

**NEWTOWN**  
STAFFORD ROAD



- Traditional Family Home
- Guests WC, Conservatory
- 2 Reception Rooms
- Refitted Kitchen
- 3 Bedrooms
- Shower

**\$365,000**

**RUSHALL**  
ROUGH BROOK ROAD



**SSTC**  
Similar Required

- Entrance hall,
- Kitchen,
- Lounge,
- Guest WC,
- Two Bedrooms
- Family Bathroom.
- Driveway
- Enclosed Garden

**\$129,950**

**BLOXWICH**  
HARDEN ROAD



**SSTC**  
Similar Required

- Traditional Semi
- 3 Reception Rooms
- Breakfast Kitchen
- Ground Floor
- Wet Room
- 3 Bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Garage

**\$149,950**

**ALDRIDGE**  
BERRYFIELDS




**SSTC**  
Similar Required

- Mid Town House
- 2 Reception Rooms
- Kitchen
- 3 Bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Rear Garden
- Parking

**\$135,000**

**OPENING OFFER**  
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NO CATCH!!

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**NEW** **CHURCHBRIDGE**  
WALSALL ROAD



- Three New Builds
- Three Storey Modern Town Houses
- NHBC Guarantee
- Through Hallway, Guest WC, Lounge Diner.

**\$184,950**

**WALSALL**  
MILTON STREET



- Mid Terrace
- Lounge
- Dining Room
- 3 Bedrooms
- Bathroom
- In Need of Refurb
- Deceptively Spacious

**\$85,000 Cash Buyers Only**

**WALSALL**  
WEBSTER ROAD



- 3 Bed Semi
- Lounge
- Dining Room
- Kitchen/Diner
- Bathroom
- Gardens
- NO CHAIN

**\$100,000**

**WALSALL**  
WINDRUSH CLOSE



**SSTC**  
Similar Required

- Semi Detached
- Through hallway
- Kitchen
- Lounge diner
- Guest WC
- Three bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Gardens

**OFFERS OVER \$140,000**

**WILLENHALL**  
BAYNTON ROAD



**SSTC**  
Similar Required

- 3 Bed Semi
- 2 Reception Rooms
- Kitchen
- Bathroom
- Garage
- Gardens
- Viewing Recommended

**\$130,000 Offers Over**

**WALSALL**  
CASTLE ROAD



**SSTC**  
Similar Required

- DETACHED
- DECEPTIVELY SPACIOUS FAMILY HOME
- THREE RECEPTION ROOMS
- OVERLOOKING OPEN FIELDS

**\$265,000**





**Walsall**  
**01922 711444**  
 7 Queens Parade, Walsall, WS3 2EX



**Goodchilts**  
 Estate Agents & Lettings



**Lane Avenue, Walsall**

- Three Bedroom Semi
- Refurbished Throughout
- New Bathroom
- New Fitted Kitchen
- New Bathroom
- Rating: 77

£600.00 PCM



**Broadway, Walsall**

- Two Bedroom Apartment
- New Build
- Communal Hallway with Lift
- Kitchen/Lounge
- Family Bathroom
- Double glazing
- Allocated Parking Space
- Gas Central Heating
- No DHSS
- Rating: 38

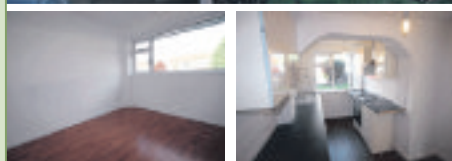
£595.00 PCM

**Broadway, Walsall**



- Two Bedroom Apartment
- New Build
- Communal Hallway
- Lounge with Balcony
- Fitted Kitchen
- Off Road Parking
- Sorry No DHSS
- Rating: 88

£595.00 PCM



**Birch Coppice Gardens, coppices Gardens Estate,**

- Four Bedroom Semi Detached
- Newly Fitted Kitchen
- Downstairs W.C.
- Through Lounge/Diner
- Garage & Off Road Parking
- Family Bathroom
- Rating: 58
- £90 Per Person Reference Fee
- £65 Admin fee
- Deposit on Application

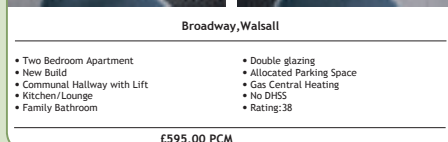
£750.00 PCM



**Newhome Way, Blakenall**

- Three Bedroom Mid Terraced Townhouse
- Kitchen
- Downstairs WC
- Lounge
- Family Bathroom
- Rating: 82

£575.00 PCM

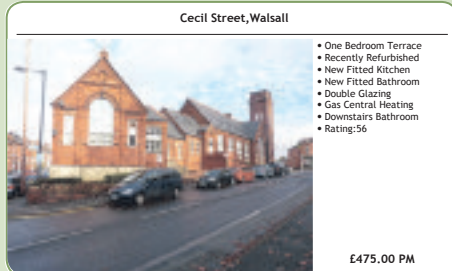


**Sand bank, Bloxwich,**



- Recently Refurbished
- Two Reception Rooms
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Recently Fitted Kitchen
- Recently Fitted Ground Floor Bathroom
- Rear Patio Area
- Deposit on Application
- Rating: TBC

£525.00 PCM



**Cecil Street, Walsall**

- One Bedroom Terrace
- Recently Refurbished
- New Fitted Kitchen
- New Fitted Bathroom
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating
- Downstairs Bathroom
- Rating: 56

£475.00 PM



**West Street, Lomere**

- Two Bedroom Terraced Property
- Through Lounge/Diner
- Open Plan Staircase
- Fitted Kitchen
- DHSS Accepted
- Rating: 66

£450.00 PCM



**Tame Street East, Walsall**

- Three Bedroom Semi - Detached
- popular Delves area of Walsall
- Lounge
- Family Bathroom
- Fitted Kitchen
- Front and Rear Gardens
- Off Road Parking
- Rating: 51

£495.00 PCM



**Manorhouse Close, Walsall**

- Ground Floor One Bedroom Apartment
- Open Plan Lounge / Kitchen
- Bathroom with Shower Over
- Entrance Hallway with Storage
- Fitted Wardrobes in Bedroom
- Rating: 71

£450.00 PCM



**The Exchange ,Bloxwich**

- ONE BEDROOM SELF CONTAINED FLAT
- Bathroom with Shower over Bath
- Large Separate Kitchen
- Spacious Lounge
- Electric Heating
- Bathroom with Shower
- Separate W.C
- DHSS Accepted
- Sorry No Pets
- Rating: 7

£400.00 PCM



**Usk Close ,Bloxwich**

- One Bedroom Ground Floor Flat
- Self Contained
- Private Entrance
- Situated on Main Bus Route
- Fitted Kitchen
- Bathroom with Shower
- Allocated Parking Space
- Private Entrance
- Situated on Main Bus Route
- DHSS Accepted
- Rating: 71

£400.00 PCM



**Stoney Lane, Lower Fram Estate,**

- Three Bedroom Terraced
- Lounge
- Kitchen/ Diner
- Family Bathroom
- Downstairs WC
- Garage
- Rating: 72
- Deposit on Application
- £90 Per Applicant
- £65 Admin Fee

£550.00 PCM



**Waterfront Way, Walsall**

- One Bedroom First Floor Apartment
- Close to all amenities & near canal
- Open Plan Kitchen / Lounge
- Fitted Bathroom with Shower Also
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- Rating: 78

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LOT 1

### Hamilton Street Bloxwich

Monday 6th February 10:30am



This traditionally styled semi detached property is situated in a popular residential area and would make an ideal purchase for a first time buyer or investor. The double glazed accommodation is in need of some modernisation.

●Guide Price £69,000 PLUS

LOT 2

### Athol Drive St. Georges

By appointment through auctioneers



Situated in the popular residential area of St. Georges, Telford this two bedroom semi detached property is ideally located. The property requires very little modernisation and therefore makes it ideal for an Investor. Cash offers only are invited due to presence of Japanese knot weed in the adjoining property.

●Guide Price £75,000 PLUS

LOT 3

### Dyas Avenue Birmingham

By appointment through Auctioneers



This charming extended link detached family home is traditionally styled, boasting a distinct frontage with character features throughout. The property is situated in a popular residential area with an abundance of shops and schools nearby.

●Guide Price £185,000 PLUS

LOT 4

### Hogarth Close Willenhall

Saturday 4th February 12:00pm



This delightfully appointed and maintained gas centrally heated and double glazed semi detached property would make an ideal investor purchase. Conveniently located, the property has a side garage and easily maintainable fore and rear gardens. Internal viewing is recommended to appreciate the accommodation. Buyers are requested to view the Mining Search.

●Guide Price £55,000 PLUS

LOT 5

### Ryle Street Bloxwich

Monday 6th February 11:00am



Traditionally styled semi detached property with double glazing, ideally suited to the needs of an investor, conveniently located in a popular residential area. Set back from the road behind a fore garden with off street parking.

●Guide Price £60,000 PLUS

LOT 6

### Genge Avenue Wolverhampton

By appointment through auctioneers



Set in a quiet cul-de-sac amongst similar relatively new properties, this 3 bedroom dormer bungalow offers well planned living accommodation with the benefit of gas central heating and double glazing. Situated within a short distance of Wolverhampton city centre, the property would make an ideal purchase for an owner/occupier or investor.

●Guide Price £130,000 PLUS

LOT 7

### Springfields Rushall

Monday 6th February 10:00am



A delightfully appointed and maintained semi detached dormer bungalow benefitting from gas fired central heating and uPVC double glazing. Situated in a popular residential area within a short walk of Rushall centre, the property would be ideal as a rental or for owner occupation for a first time buyer.

●Guide Price £99,950 PLUS

LOT 8

### Salmon Court, Stratford Road Wellesbourne

By appointment through auctioneers



Situated in the quiet Warwickshire village Wellesbourne, this purpose built ground floor apartment is situated in a small development for the over 60's administered by McCarthy & Stone. Independent living is coupled with the ability to join in shared events in the well equipped lounge or landscaped gardens affording rural views. With the benefit of uPVC double glazing and electric heating.

●Guide Price £110,000 PLUS

LOT 9

### Land Adjacent 93a Dingle Street Oldbury

The site is open for inspection.



This Freehold Building Plot is offered with Planning Permission (subject to conditions) via Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council Application Number: DC/16/59080 and is for the erection of two detached houses with associated parking. Amounting to approximately 0.2 acre, the land is situated in a popular residential area close to other new developments.

●Guide Price £65,000 PLUS

LOT 9a

### Granville Street Wolverhampton

By appointment through Auctioneers



This traditionally styled freehold mid terraced has been converted in 2 self contained flats with a combined income of around £9,500 per annum, representing over a 10% yield (based upon guide) Situated close to Wolverhampton city centre the property comprises Ground Floor flat let on a periodic tenancy at £420pcm and a first floor flat let on a periodic tenancy at £380pcm. Both have double glazing, whilst the ground floor also benefits from gas fired central heating.

●Guide Price £89,000 PLUS

LOT 10

### Lysway Street Walsall

By appointment Through Auctioneers



A substantial 3 storey traditional semi detached property situated close to Walsall town centre, with Gas fired central heating and double glazing the property is in need of further modernisation and improvement but lends itself as a development opportunity. With double gates to side and rear parking area and access to semi derelict annex.

●Guide Price £165,000 PLUS

LOT 11

### Sandwell Street Walsall

Saturday 4th February 10:00am



This three bedroom detached property is in need of modernisation. The property is situated in a popular residential area and is within walking distance of multiple schools. This makes the property ideally suited towards both home owners as well as investors.

●Guide Price £137,500 PLUS

LOT 12

### Dorsett Road Darlaston

Saturday 4th February 10:45am



This substantial traditionally styled semi detached property offers spacious well planned accommodation which is predominately double glazed and which is situated in a popular residential established residential area within a short walk of Darlaston town centre. The property is in need of modernisation and improvement.

●Guide Price £73,000 PLUS

LOT 13

### Ryle Street Bloxwich

Monday 6th February 11:30am



Traditionally styled semi detached property with double glazing and in need of improvement and modernisation. Conveniently located close to Bloxwich centre, the property would suit a builder or investor and has off street parking to front.

●Guide Price £65,000 PLUS

LOT 14

### Byland Way Bloxwich

Monday 6th February 12:00pm



This three bedroom semi detached property is in need of modernisation. The property is situated in a popular residential area and is within walking distance of both Bloxwich North train station and Mossley Primary school.

●Guide Price £86,500 PLUS

LOT 15

### Margam Crescent Bloxwich

Monday 6th February 12:30pm



Situated on the popular Mossley estate this three bedroom mid terraced property requires very little modernisation. This property is ideally suited towards both home owners and investors.

●Guide Price £82,000 PLUS

LOT 16

### Slim Road Bentley

Saturday 4th February 11:15am



Set on a corner plot in this popular and sought after residential area, this traditionally styled semi detached property has gas fired central heating and offers spacious well planned accommodation. In need of modernisation and improvement, the property would make an ideal purchase for builder or investor and offer tremendous scope for further improvement.

●Guide Price £85,000 PLUS

LOT 17

### Cobden Street Walsall

Monday 6th February 15:00pm



This four bedroom semi detached property is in need of modernisation throughout. The property is situated in a popular residential area a short distance from local schools and Walsall Town Centre. With all amenities close at hand the property comprises: Ground Floor Lounge with sliding doors giving access to the rear garden (7.3m x 4.6m), Kitchen (3.3m x 2m), First Floor Bedroom One rear (4.6m x 3.3m), Bedroom Two (3.6m x 3.6m), Bedroom Three (3.3m x 1.8m), Bedroom Four (2.6m x 2.2m), Bathroom (2.2m x 1.6m)

●Guide Price £115,000 PLUS

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# MOTURING SECTION

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## MOTURING

# Cheapest car you can buy

By Andrew Evans

Alongside a lightly reworked exterior facelift, the new Sandero brings with it a new engine.

This three-cylinder unit, known as the SCe 75, becomes the entry point to the Dacia range at £5,995 in basic Access trim, but is also available in the far more popular (Dacia claims around 70 per cent of sales of Sandero) Ambiance specification, as well as the Laureate range-topping model we tested – although this latter combination won't be coming to the UK.

### Endearing

Dacia isn't a particularly stirring brand. Despite some free and partly tongue-in-cheek advertising for the Sandero on the world's most popular motoring television show, ultimately it's a little-known Romanian brand that builds cars based on older Renault platforms (this one used to be a Clio) and sells them cheaply on a no-frills promise.

It's endearing to an extent and the brand has its admirers and fans, but it's not going to make many car enthusiasts take too much notice – for now.

The Sandero is a roomy car. It's a B-segment hatchback, sitting in the same class as the Ford Fiesta and Vauxhall Corsa, but with a 320L boot – expanding to 1,200L with the rear seats down – it's the roomiest vehicle in the sector.



There's a roomy boot



The Sandero sits in the B-segment

There's decent space in the cabin too, so it comes with some pretty solid family credentials and even the EuroNCAP rating (at 4 stars) is a decent effort that rivals many in the sector.

There's few things to grumble about in the Sandero's driving manners if you temper your expectations somewhat. The older Clio underpinnings actually do translate to some modicum of

handling performance, but it's a little outdated and while you can coax a little fun out of it, distinctly average.

### Score

It's largely focused on the comfort of the drive and it scores reasonably well, even on some dismal roads out in the Croatian hills.

The size – and cameras in this

The Dacia Sandero has had a lightly reworked facelift and a new engine

Laureate specification – mean it's a doddle around town too.

The Sandero ticks one box for value right away: it's the cheapest car you can buy in the UK.

However, in the very cheapest Access trim, it's almost a false economy, as there's so little equipment that it draws too much attention to the car's shortcomings and detracts from the experience.

Ambiance buyers get air conditioning, DAB radio, Bluetooth for your phone and Aux and USB inputs, and for £6,995 that's a pretty solid equipment list.

The Sandero is very much a car for those who are budgeting for two or three-year old examples of more expensive hatchbacks but still want all of the benefits of a new car.



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# 9 Local Information

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## FRANCIS TOTTY (Deceased)

Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the aforementioned deceased, late of 38 The Pinfold Walsall West Midlands WSS 3JL, who died on 05/10/2016, are required to send particulars thereof in writing to the undersigned Solicitors on or before 07/04/2017, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to claims and interests of which they have had notice.

**ENOCH EVANS LLP**  
St Paul's Chambers 6-9 Hatherton Road Walsall WS1 1XS T492562

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Anyone who wishes to make representations regarding this application must give notice in writing to: The Licensing Unit, Walsall Council, Civic Centre, Walsall WS1 1TP. Representations must be received no later than: 23 February 2017.

The Application Record and Register may be viewed during normal office hours at the above address.

It is an offence under Section 136 of the Licensing Act 2003, knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application and the maximum fine for which a person is liable on summary conviction for the offence is up to level 5 on the standard scale (£5000).

## MARY BRAZIER (Deceased)

Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the aforementioned deceased, late of 30 Parklands Gardens Birmingham Road Walsall WS1 2NW, who died on 15/11/2016, are required to send particulars thereof in writing to the undersigned Solicitors on or before 07/04/2017, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to claims and interests of which they have had notice.

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## SIDNEY ARBLASTER (Deceased)

Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the aforementioned deceased, late of 43 Drayton Street Walsall West Midlands WS2 9PP, who died on 04/12/2016, are required to send particulars thereof in writing to the undersigned on or before 03/04/2017, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to claims and interests of which they have had notice.

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Aztec 650 Aztec West Almondsbury Bristol BS32 4SD (Ref: ELP/3948990/Arblaster) T492641

## Department for Transport

### TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990

The Secretary of State gives notice of the proposal to make an Order under section 247 of the above Act to authorise the stopping up of an irregular shaped north western part width and north eastern part width of Silver Street comprising bellmouths and an irregular shaped northern part width of Silver Street comprising carriageway and footway at Brownhills, in Walsall.

If made, the Order would authorise the stopping up only to enable development to be carried out should planning permission be granted by Walsall Council. The Secretary of State gives notice of the draft Order under Section 253 (1) of the 1990 Act.

Copies of the draft Order and relevant plan will be available for inspection during normal opening hours at Brownhills Post Office, 55 High Street, Brownhills, Walsall WS8 6HH in the 28 days commencing on 02 February 2017, and may be obtained, free of charge, from the address stated below quoting NATTRAN/WMS247/2651.

Any person may object to the making of the proposed order by stating their reasons in writing to the Secretary of State at nationalcaseswork@dtf.gsi.gov.uk or National Transport Casework Team, Tyneside House, Skinnerburn Road, Newcastle upon Tyne NE4 7AR, quoting the above reference. Objections should be received by midnight on 02 March 2017. You are advised that your personal data and correspondence will be passed to the applicant/agent to enable your objection to be considered. If you do not wish your personal data to be forwarded, please state your reasons when submitting your objection.

**D Hoggins, Casework Manager**

## Walsall Council, Planning, Engineering and Transportation

Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) act 1990 Development Management Procedure Order 2015 (as amended)

The below applications have been made to the Walsall Council. Applications can be viewed at First Stop Shop, Civic Centre, Walsall or online www.walsall.gov.uk/planning. Representations can be made online, email: planning@walsall.gov.uk or in writing to Head of Planning and Building Control, Civic Centre, Darwall Street, Walsall, WS1 1DG. Representations should be made within 21 days of the date of this notice. **Please note:** Your letter and personal details will form part of the planning file which is a public document and will be available for inspection at the Council Offices. The information may be released as part of a request under the Freedom of Information Act.

**17/0033** Restful Homes Developments Limited FOR: REDEVELOPMENT OF FORMER BLOCKWORK SITE TO PROVIDE NEW 80 BED SPECIALIST CARE HOME (C2 USE) AND ASSOCIATED ANCILLARY FACILITIES, CAR PARKING AND EXTERNAL WORKS. AT: FORMER BLOCK WORKS SITE, SOUTH OF 370 CHESTER ROAD, WALSALL, WS9 9DE

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**16/1821** Mr Surinder Singh FOR: SINGLE STOREY BUILDING AND COVERED AREA AT REAR INCLUDING PART CHANGE OF USE OF LAND TO BEAUTY SALON AND MOBILITY SCOOTER STORAGE (SUI GENERIS USE) AND SINGLE STOREY EXTENSION TO MICKY'S STEAKAWAY (RETROSPECTIVE). AT: 16 SHAW STREET, WALSALL, WS2 8PH

**17/0052** Kay Properties Midlands Ltd FOR: ERECTION OF B2/B8 WAREHOUSE WITH ANCILLARY OFFICES AND ASSOCIATED YARD, CAR PARK AND EXTERNAL WORKS AT: LAND REAR OF ARBURY OFF: AIRFIELD DRIVE, ALDRIDGE

# 10 Personals

## personal

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Anaesh Patel with New Zealand Test-playing batsman Ross Taylor



Worcestershire batting coach Ron Headley has been an influence



Anaesh runs shoulders with legendary West Indian fast bowler Michael Holding



The teenager with bowling coach Kevin Lyons from Glamorgan

# Cricket prospect aims to have batsmen in a spin

## SPORTING FEATURE

By Lewis Cox

**A CRICKETING** prospect from Walsall is spinning his way to India after landing a scholarship experience – and will bring his talent to the Birmingham League next season.

Anaesh Patel is one of just three nationwide winners who will be jetting over to Asia in March after success in the Southall Travel Spin Scholarship scheme.

The competition, held for promising spinners between the ages of 18 and 21 and not contracted to a First Class county outfit, was held at the Leicestershire CCC Indoor Cricket Centre.

And talented 21-year-old Patel, who got into the sport as a youngster with the help of a 'cricket-crazy' father, wants to make a splash in India before returning and unleashing his skills on the local scene.

### Settled

The young hopeful has featured for a host of local sides in his junior years, cutting his teeth with Wolverhampton, Walsall, West Bromwich Dartmouth, Staffordshire under-13s and Worcestershire under-17s.

As an 18-year-old he left for Cardiff to study mathematics at university, where he featured for Cardiff Cricket Club in the South Wales Premier League.

Now studying risk management in Leicestershire and commuting from home, Patel is settled and ready to return to the West Midlands scene for the 2017 season – after he enjoys an all-expenses paid week-long spin scholarship in Mumbai.

On winning the event – sponsored by Southall

***"It's important to spin the ball and make the batsman drive and also to have confidence in your bowling."***

Travels and Club Cricket Conference – Patel said: "I am over the moon to have won the award especially as it was a national competition."

"I am really looking forward to visiting India and gaining further experience on sub-continent pitches. I would like to thank to my bowling coach Kevin Lyons (Glamorgan CCC) and batting coach Ron Headley for the many hours they have spent developing my bowling and batting skills."

"It goes without saying that without the support of my parents this victory would not have been possible."

As well as mixing it with the likes of experienced coach Lyons in Wales and former West Indies star Headley (Worcestershire batting coach), Patel has been able to rub shoulders with the likes of New Zealand Test players Tom Latham and Ross Taylor and West Indian great fast bowler Michael Holding.

Headley arranged the surprise visit of legendary paceman Holding, nicknamed 'Whispering Death',

after Patel and his young team-mates had been wowed by the 2010 film 'Fire in Babylon' – an ode to when West Indies dominated world cricket.

He was also invited to pit his wits against the Black Caps stars, with Patel bowling at Latham, Taylor and co in a star-studded net session.

Patel's dad Naresh, a Level 2 ECB qualified cricket coach, explained how his son would become transfixed with the game at an early age – watching stars on the television and trying to recreate scenes in the house, much to the annoyance of his wife.

"We never pushed him but he was always into it and enjoyed it," said Naresh.

"He's worked hard in everything he has done and cricket is the same."

### Surreal

"We're already looking for a local team for Anaesh to play with next season after the trip to Mumbai. It will be his first time out there and to go on a scholarship there will be amazing for him."

Anaesh hopes to still make the grade in professional cricket, citing his risk management degree as an option to fall back on.

"Initially I wanted to be a batsman, but soon noticed that I could turn the ball so I was encouraged to bowl leg spin and have never looked back," said the youngster.

"I really couldn't believe it that I had won. It was totally surreal and I am really looking forward to going to India."

"I think it's important to spin the ball and always make the batsman drive and also to have confidence in your bowling and skill levels."



Anaesh has also had the chance to meet New Zealand batsman Tom Latham



Anaesh, his father and brother with 'Whispering Death', aka West Indian paceman Holding





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## Wembley trip would cap it – Robinson

SPORTING Khalsa's Testa Robinson believes a Wembley showpiece final could trump his international debut with St Kitts & Nevis.

The 31-year-old centre-half, who was with Birmingham City as a youngster, made his international bow for the West Indies nation in October 2012 and now finds his club side two wins from Wembley after a 3-0 FA Vase win over Ely City last weekend. They travel to Colshill in the last eight on February 18.

Robinson – who has previously played for Rushall Olympic and Chasetown – thinks a run to the final would be his best achievement yet.

"I'm not going to lie, the cap for me was a dream, definitely," said Robinson, who has three international caps.

"But semi-pro players lose that dream of being an international player because you're not professional. Wembley is a dream.

"Wembley is always the one. I've always had that Wembley target – you think 'how close can we get?'"

Khalsa played in front of more than 2,200 fans last year in the FA Cup fourth qualifying round against FC United of Manchester and Robinson is confident fans would turn out to support them the further they go.

"With this coverage and how close we are to Wembley, I'm sure it will bring some fans out to support us," he said.

Home goalkeeper Harry Reynold kept his side in the game on Saturday, but Khalsa took the lead through Craig Bannister on 58 minutes, and secured their passage with goals from Dave Meese, penalty, and Marvin Nisbett.

## Bloxwich stay top of league after a nine-goal thriller

**Bloxwich 5 Bromsgrove 4**  
BLOXWICH came out on top by the odd goal in nine in an all-action encounter, after taking a 4-0 lead.

Bloxwich started the stronger team in wet and windy conditions at the Sneyd and went two ahead through a Gary Williams brace.

Despite going down to nine men at one point, Bloxwich continued to press and Jamie Roberts scored an excellent reverse hit solo goal, followed up by a well taken Matt Baldwin finish.

Bloxwich conceded just before half time, and in the second half the wheels appeared to come off.

Cards were shown to both teams with Bromsgrove going down to eight at one point. But they got back into the game through a comical own goal and then scored again before Steve Mallows countered.

Calm was almost fully restored until Bromsgrove scored a short corner with one minute to go. Bloxwich remain top of the league but face a key weekend with games on both Saturday and Sunday.

## Late try secures a muddy maximum



Centre Rob Angell looks to offload

**Walsall 27 Stafford 0**

WALSALL scored a dramatic late try to gain maximum points in what really should have been a comfortable victory against a hard working Stafford team on a muddy Delves Road pitch.

The hosts dominated throughout and could have secured the fourth try bonus point before the half-time whistle.

Roger Weston opened the scoring with a penalty, but they missed several opportunities before Jeffrey Williamson's first try. It was 15-0 at half-time with a Rod Dickson try converted by Weston.

Walsall again failed to capitalise on chances created in the second period, but Weston went

over and converted before Williamson secured the bonus.

Walsall 3rds had a comfortable 39-7 win at Bridgnorth. Phil Stanley scored four and is now the team's top try scorer. There was one each for Dominik Wiecek, Harry Perkins and James Topham. James Quigley kicked two conversions.

Walsall u-17s 12 edged out Burton 12-10 with tries from James Tamilo, converted by William Hennessy, and Raman Sanga.

The under-16s returned from Dudley Kingswinford with a 32-15 win. Joe Birch scored three tries and a conversion. Other scores came from Dan Khan, Filip Kozlowski and Dmitri Morrison.

## Wood glad to see back of January

**St Andrews 5 Walsall Wood 2**

WOOD said goodbye to January with their seventh consecutive defeat.

They again scored first and last but in between were given a lesson in finishing by the Leicester-based Midland League newcomers.

Home defender Justin Peace helped Charlie Shaw's effort into the net for the opener within the first five minutes, but by half-time Wood trailed 2-1. Pearce making amends before Ryan Hodgkinson scored St Andrews' second.

With 64 minutes on the clock, St Andrews had increased their lead to 4-1 with Hodgkinson adding his second. The third goal in a crazy nine-minute spell came when Shay Brennan went down under a challenge in the box and picked himself up to slot home from the spot.

With three minutes left, Wood grabbed a consolation through a Joey Butlin penalty after Leon Taylor was brought down.

Wood started and ended the better, but it is what happened in between that will spark concern. The difference was that 10-minute spell early in the second half when Wood shipped in three goals. But they kept plugging away and possibly deserved more than the consolation penalty they scored at the end.

After a dismal January, it does not get any easier for Wood as they face fourth-placed Alvechurch on Saturday.

Wood, down to 10 men, battled back from a goal behind last Tuesday night, but suffered 82nd minute heartbreak in the Polymac Packaging League Cup against Highgate United.

Lei Brown gave Highgate the lead after Ricardo Ricketts had been dismissed for pulling the dangerous back. Wood levelled through Joey Butlin, but with extra time looming, Josh Hawker fired home to break Wood's hearts.

## Pics lose half-time lead to slip at home

**Rushall Olympic 1 Nantwich 3**

PICS let a half-time lead slip to go down 3-1 at home to Nantwich Town.

Rushall went close to opening the scoring in the 34th minute when Josh McKenzie headed wide. But the opening goal arrived just a couple of minutes later, a long-range from Aaron Forde.

The visitors were back level in the 52nd minute through Sean Cooke, whose 79th minute effort then looped into the net with the aid of a deflection.

They sealed the points when Steve Jones' strike was pushed out by Sam Arnold into the path of Matt Bell who fired home.

★★★

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# HOSTS SHAKEN BY COMEBACK

**Bury 3 Walsall 3**

**THE thrills and spills of football are there for all to see whenever Walsall and Bury lock horns.**

Last season, the Saddlers raced into a three-goal lead at Gigg Lane before having to defend for their lives after a 60-second Leon Clarke brace.

Then earlier this campaign, Jon Whitney's side enjoyed a three-goal cushion once more only for the Shakers to capitalise on a second-half collapse and escape the Banks's Stadium with a point.

That pattern continued on Saturday with another thriller which this time saw a spectacular Saddlers comeback.

Three goals in eight second-half minutes saw the Saddlers turn this clash on its head after James Vaughan and Reece Brown – his first career goal – put Bury two to the good.

Walsall hadn't been at the races first half, but that all changed after the break.

**Folklore**

First, Erhun Oztumer brought his side back into the game with a sweetly struck free-kick.

Then Jason McCarthy etched his name into Saddlers folklore by scoring two goals in the space of three minutes.

But in this fixture, the drama is never over. And there was a sense of inevitability when Tom Soares poked home an equaliser for the hosts.

It meant, when the final whistle blew, Saddlers fans didn't know whether to celebrate a point or be disappointed to not take three. On reflection, though, a draw was a fair result. It also ensured Walsall moved into the top half of League One for the first time since October.

Boss Jon Whitney says he is still hopeful of adding to his Walsall squad despite missing out on a move for Macclesfield winger Danny Rowe.

The 24-year-old rejected a move to the Banks's Stadium in favour of Championship Ipswich. Barnett recently made a £100,000 offer for Rowe with Walsall also making a cash bid for the player.

But Whitney says he was still talking to other targets ahead of the transfer window closing on Tuesday.

"We have got a good, strong team but I'm trying to add a face. I am speaking to a couple of more people," he said.

## Stepping out before big fight



From left, Connor Parker, Brad Foster, Lennox Clarke and Josh Stokes at the Banks's

HALESOWEN boxer Lennox Clarke trod the Banks's Stadium turf ahead of topping the bill at the Walsall FC venue next month.

The super middleweight will headline Errol Johnson's four-fight 'Battleground' bill on February 17.

Three other fighters, Lichfield flyweight Brad Foster, Swadincote super lightweight Connor Parker and West Bromwich light heavyweight Josh Stokes, joined him in making a half-time appearance during the Saddlers' 3-1 win over Bristol Rovers.

The quartet handed out certificates to Walsall's Academy Players of the Month from under-9s to under-16s. Baggies fan Clarke said: "I

enjoy fighting at Walsall. It's a good venue and the fans are close to the action. I always get a good reception from the football fans too."

Clarke tops the bill in an eight-round contest against 28-year-old Pole Bartimiej Gaftka.

Foster takes part in a six round contest, though scheduled opponent Brett Fidoe is no longer available. Parker steps in against former English title challenger Liam Richards, while Stokes, brother of unbeaten middleweight Tom, will debut at light heavyweight against Lincoln's Mitch Mitchell.

Standard tickets are £35, available by calling the boxers, or £60 VIP tickets for tables of 10, with two-course meal. Call 01922 651 414/416.

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